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Volume 71, Issue 38 · www.wilcoxnewspapers.com Thursday, March 19, 2026

CHAMPIONS!

A pair of local swimmers came home with championships from the Michigan High School Athletic Association Division 3 State Finals at the Holland Aquatic Center on Saturday, March 14.

Otsego senior Liam Smith (left) won in both the 200-yard IM and the 100 butterfly. That gave him seven state titles for his storied high school career. He won the 100 fly all four years.

Plainwell senior Sam Harper (right), meanwhile, took home top honors in the 500 freestyle. It was his second straight title in that event. For full story, see page B1. (Photos provided)

Otsego, Plainwell set for big weekend of high school musicals

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

For musical theater fans, the Otsego-Plainwell area will be the place to be next week.

Both Otsego High School and Plainwell High School will take the stage with their annual spring musicals, offering audiences two distinct productions over the same four-day stretch.

Otsego High School will present the musical comedy "Once Upon a Mattress," while Plainwell High School will perform "Hadestown: Teen Edition."

Otsego's production of Once Upon a Mattress will run Thursday, March 26 through Saturday, March 28 at 7 p.m., with a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, March 29, at the Otsego High School Performing Arts Center, 550 Washington St.

The show is a lighthearted twist on the classic "Princess and the Pea" fairy tale and features Grifin Jacobs as Prince Dauntless and Stella Houseman as Queen Aggravain.

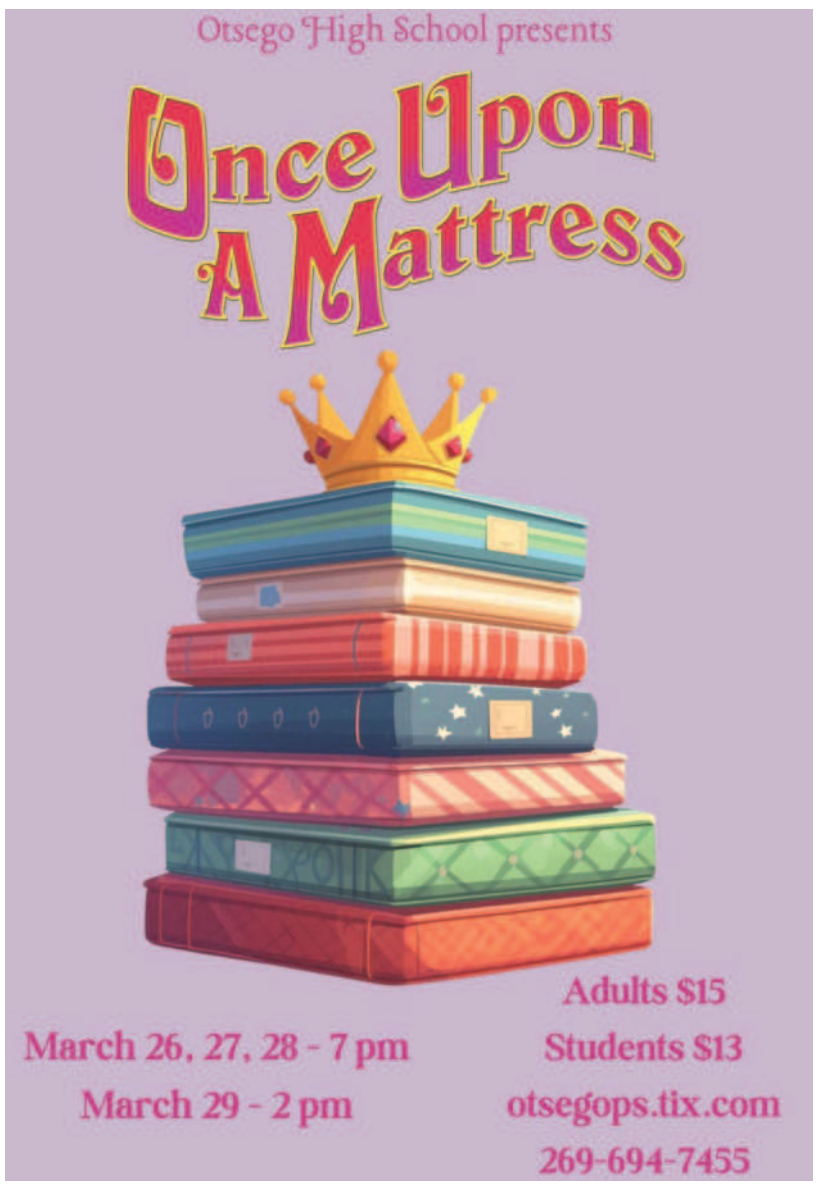
Tickets are $15 for adults and $13 for students and can be purchased online at otsegops.tix.com.

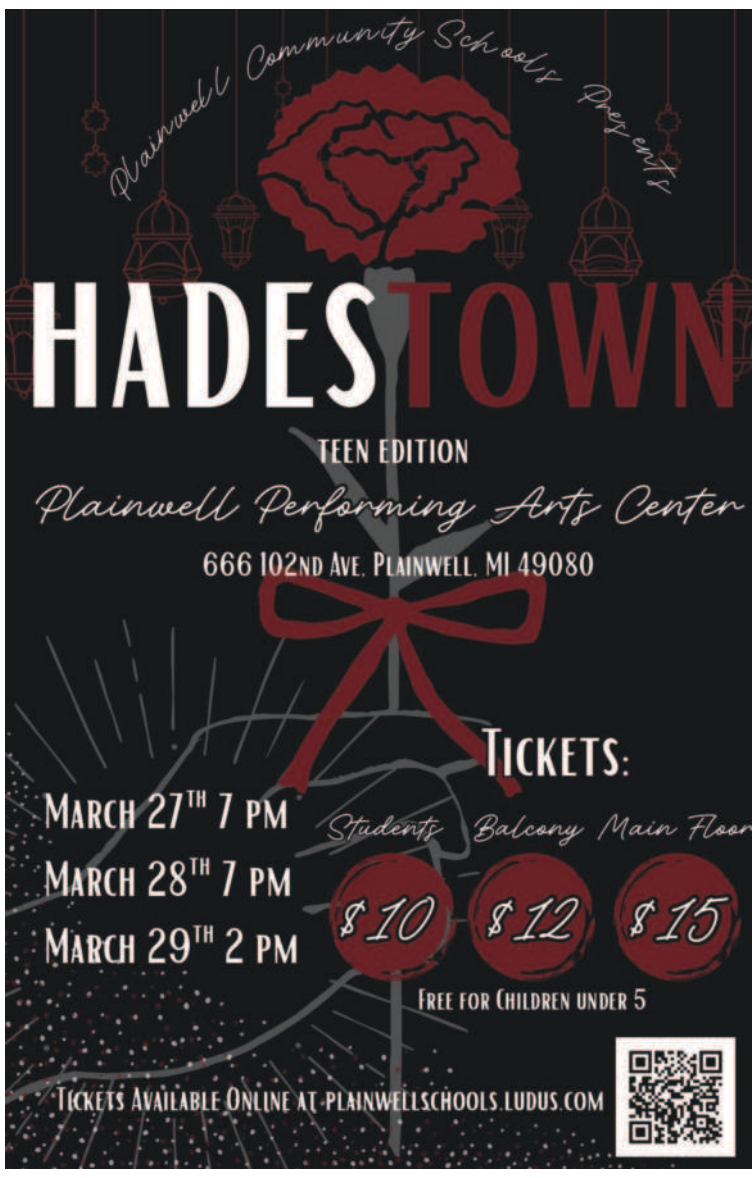
Plainwell High School's production of Hadestown: Teen Edition will be staged at the Plainwell Performing Arts Center, with performances at 7 p.m. Friday, March 27 and Saturday, March 28, along with a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, March 29.

The musical, inspired by Greek mythology, blends contemporary music styles with the story of Orpheus and Eurydice.

Tickets for Plainwell's performances are available online at plainwellschools.ludus.com, with pricing listed as $10 for students, $12 for seniors and $15 for adults.

With both schools presenting shows on the same weekend, audiences will have multiple opportunities to support local student performers and enjoy a variety of musical theater offerings.





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Wayland students share Anne Frank's story

By Joseph Schultz

The Wayland community had a profound and moving experience Thursday night at the "Anne Frank: A History for Today" Community Night Presentation. The exhibit, hosted by the Anne Frank Center at the University of South Carolina, featured Wayland Union 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th-grade students explaining each display.

Holocaust educator Corey Harbaugh, of the Anne Frank Center, explained to the more than 80 attendees that the students were taught about the holocaust and the Frank family, they would not be following a script. Harbaugh noted that the exhibit would be unique that way because the students would provide their own perspectives on the history they had learned.

"History never ends," Harbaugh told the participating students. The event was particularly poignant for Harbaugh, given the attack at a West Bloomfield synagogue earlier in the day.

At the start of the displays, one poster featured family photos of Anne Frank and her family, while another poster displayed photos of the rise of the Nazis and Adolf Hitler. Toward the end of the displays, the family photos were gone, replaced with images of the Secret Annex, and the concentration camps.

At each exhibit, the students did an amazing job describing the photos and the events that took place. It was a demonstration of student leadership that Wayland Union Schools should be proud of.

Attendees also viewed the short film called The Ice Cream Man. The film tells the story Ernst Cahn, a little-known hero of the resistance against the Nazis in Amsterdam.

This exhibit was made possible because a generous donor saw the presentation last year in Kalamazoo and wanted to bring it to schoolchildren in West Michigan. Allegan became the first county in the country to have Anne Frank's story offered to every school district.

Harbaugh, who has ties to West Michigan, reached out to his friend Teresa Fulk about the exhibit. Fulk, who is the Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services at Wayland Union Schools, jumped at the opportunity to bring the Anne Frank exhibit to Wayland. She worked with the Allegan County Community Foundation and the Allegan Area ESA to make the event happen.

The "Anne Frank: A History for Today" event will be presented again on March 25th at 7:00pm. It will be held at the Wayland Union Schools Administration Building. The event is free to the public.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This story courtesy of TownBroadcast

"NO MORE EMPTY BOWLS" supports Ladders of Hope Food Pantry

By Gari Voss

The Southwest Lakeshore community, art students and businesses have joined together to support Ladders of Hope, the Fennville area Food Pantry. Saturday, March 21, 2026, from 6pm-8pm, the "No More Empty Bowls" fundraiser event will be held at Fenn Valley Winery, 6130 122nd Ave., Fennville, MI.

The evening offers participants a chance to experience appetizers, a variety of soups, and desserts donated by: Root Café, Crane's Pie Pantry, Salt of the Earth, Farmhouse Deli, Happystance, What Not Inn, The Little Store, Iggy's, Chicken Scratch Farm, Café Julia, Beechwood Grill, Borrowed Time, Virtue Cider, South Haven Creations, Lise Catering & Publishing, Pennyroyal Café & Provisions, and Cookies-on-Call.

Tickets are $60 per person and all profits benefit Ladders of Hope. Each guest will receive a glass of wine, appetizers, bread, soup, dessert, and a handmade pottery bowl while enjoying live music by Ivan Akansiima and Ben Schmidt-Swartz.

Ivan is Ugandan born, and a Christian Jazz theologian and music craftsman. His music is anchored in African music traditions with rich melodies and rhythms found in almost all music of the world. Ben is a Chicago born saxophonist, composer and educator living and working in Chicago and Northwest Indiana while performing often in southwest Michigan with Ivan.

The handcrafted pottery bowls were created by Fennville High School students and local potters. The bowls will be on display during the event, and each diner will be privileged to select one to take home. The bowl project was funded by the Fennville Educational Foundation.

The event has been organized by the Fennville Women's Club with support from the Fennville DDA, the Fennville High School Art Department, and Ladders of Hope volunteers.

"We are excited to see so many organizations, businesses, students, and people donate their time, talent and space to this event. This event would not be possible without their generosity," stated Dawn Soltysiak, owner of Root Café. "I love that about this area. People really do care about each other."

Tickets are available at Root Café, Cranes' Pie Pantry, Fennville City Hall, Fennville District Library, texting 269-348-5909, or at the door.

Ivan Akansilima and Ben Schmidt will provide music during the Ladders of Hope fundraiser Saturday, March 21 at Fenn Valley Vineyard, 6130 122nd Ave., Fennville, MI., from 6 to 8 p.m. Proceeds will support Ladders of Hope food pantry. Tickets are available at Root Café, Cranes' Pie Pantry, Fennville City Hall, Fennville District Library, texting 269-348-5909, or at the door. Photo: courtesy of Jody Martin

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Art of Allegan draws enthusiasts of The Arts

By Gari Voss

A scene from Scoundrels and Heroes that will open on Thurs., March 19th with performances through Sun., Mar. 22nd on the Griswold Stage was part of the opening acts for the film Loving Vincent during the Art of Allegan fundraiser on Sat., Mar. 14, 2026. Pictured: Whitney Ehresman, Lacey Morton, and Kassidy Bright examine hands that require an immediate manicure. Tickets are available at https://allegan-players.ludus.com/index.php. Photo: G. Voss

David Clement-Horton contributed vocals while Craig Melland gave backup during the Art of Allegan pre-film entertainment. Photo: G. Voss

The inaugural Art of Allegan fundraiser for the Griswold Auditorium brought enthusiasts interested in The Arts to Allegan on Saturday, March 14, 2026. Those interested in visual art techniques, pottery, living plants creations, soft material designs, and the performing arts learned about and/or improved their knowledge and skills.

The day began at 10am. Those arriving could browse the many donations to the Silent Auction and make their way to the Banquet Room on the lower level where artists displayed their work and the workshops were being held.

Local artists offered workshops where participants could take home their creations. Lori Hibma from Cottage Arts & Eats guided full classes through fused glass at 10am and 2pm, Mary Clare shared paint workshops at 10am and 2pm, while Joy Richmond encouraged guests through techniques in watercolors at 10am to 2pm.

To round out the offerings at the Griswold, Stacey Butler and Barri Rosenbluth gave an introduction to Gelli Printing at 10am, and Rebecca Frick Butler conducted a Gouache Painting class at 2pm.

While the lower level was busy with classes, local art-related businesses around Allegan offered Drop-in DIY Art Projects. The Sassy Olive helped participants in creating shirt art. Essenburg Art allowed guests to do glazing and offered special items which featured the Old Iron Bridge. Eccentric Garden furnished materials for making an Art of Allegan Terrarium with a picture depicting Allegan's icons along the far side and lovely succulents were added by the plant artist.

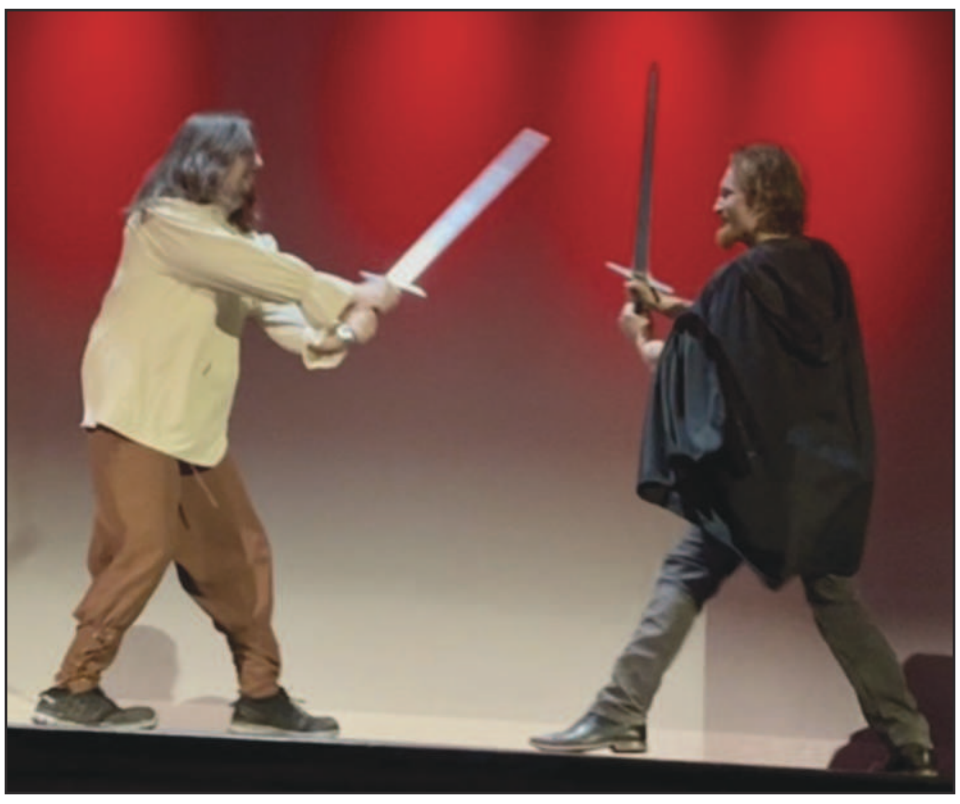
The highlight of the day was the Behind the Scenes Tour of the Griswold Auditorium from top to bottom. Erin Dye researched the grand lady of a structure and called upon Manager Ryan Burza as she investigated rooms and tiny doors for the organized tours. Her discoveries were unveiled to the groups who were willing to climb stairs and look inside the workings of the structure.

The day was capped off with live entertainment by the Allegan Community Players for whom the Griswold Auditorium was built and dedicated, and the showing of the film Loving Vincent. The film was a fascinating short that revealed the life of Vincent VanGogh. The uniqueness of this film is that it was created solely through a myriad of paintings which depicted people and actions while unveiling the development of VanGogh's talent and creations from his childhood to his untimely death.

It was VanGogh's painting of Starry Night that inspired Paulette Carr to create the picture of Allegan's Starry Night. The original was part of the Silent Auction, but copies can be purchased at the Allegan City Hall. Woven in the Allegan Starry Night are images of the Iron Bridge, Griswold Auditorium, and other Allegan icons.

The overall theme of the Art of Allegan Fundraiser was to introduce, or reintroduce, the public to the beauty and needs of this Allegan landmark. The generosity of Marilla Griswold, who used the proceeds from her timber company to make improvements to Allegan, had the facility built with the Allegan Community Players and other performing arts groups in mind.

Currently, almost 100 years later, those interested in the Arts are asked to contribute to the maintenance and improvements of the structure and welcome entertainment groups to grace the stage. Therefore, all proceeds from the fundraiser will be utilized to perform the updates that will assist theater and music goers enjoy live performances and gatherings for another 100 years.



Wyatt Tussey and Exavier Paris demonstrated sword fighting techniques that will be used during the Allegan Community Players production of *Heroes and Scoundrels* that opens Thurs., Mar. 19th with performances through Sun., Mar. 22nd at the Griswold Auditorium. Tickets are available at https://alleganplayers.ludus.com/index.php.

Special thanks are sent to the participating artists and art businesses around the city of Allegan along with Allegan County Community Foundation, A-Tech Computer Solutions, Brave Art Studios & Gallery, Smurfit Westrock, Tibbitts Financial Consulting, Coldwell Banker Sneller Real Estate, Country House Furniture, Tantrick Brewing & Stillhouse, The Lynx Golf Course, and Odd Bird Art & Desing.

In addition to the businesses that hosted art activities on Saturday, Avolio Glasswerks set up their display inside Tantrick Brewing, and Allegan Floral & Gifts will be donating 10% of their March sales to the Griswold Art of Allegan.

It is not too late to make donations to benefit the Griswold Fundraiser. Contributions can be made to https://givebutter.com/NsVRsE or to the Marilla Griswold Designated Endowment Fund with ACCF https://allegan.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create/fund?funit_id=1038.

Fennville seeks coordinator to bring beloved Goose Festival back in 2026

By Art Nicholas

After a year away, the Fennville Goose Festival may be ready to take flight again — and the city's Downtown Development Authority is looking for the right person to make it happen.

The Fennville DDA has posted a paid, part-time position for a Goose Festival Coordinator, a stipend-based role that will be responsible for planning and executing the festival's return this October. The position pays $7,500 for a minimum of 300 hours of work, with the festival scheduled for the weekend of October 9-11.

The Goose Festival has been an annual tradition in the Fennville community since 1985, rooted in the autumn migration of Canada geese through the area. What began as a single-day event grew into a four-day celebration featuring a parade, live music, arts and crafts, food vendors, carnival rides, and nature tours of the nearby Allegan State Game Area.

But last year, the festival went quiet. Long-time volunteers had stepped back after giving a decade or more of their lives to the event, and with few new volunteers emerging to take their place, the festival's future came into question. City staff, already stretched thin, said they simply didn't have the capacity to produce the quality event the community deserved.

Now, city leaders are taking a new approach — hiring a dedicated coordinator to rebuild the infrastructure the festival needs.

According to the job posting, the Goose Festival Coordinator will recruit and manage volunteers, oversee overall event planning, handle communications with craft fair participants and vendors, manage social media and promotional materials, and work to secure private sponsorships. The position is hybrid, with office space available at City Hall, and the schedule is largely flexible — except for the festival weekend itself, which the posting lists as non-negotiable.

For longtime residents, the return of Goose Fest can't come soon enough.

"My family and I attended Goose Fest essentially every year — it's been a very good mark on my life growing up," said Seth Wright, a longtime Fennville-area resident. "In my later years I've volunteered as boundary security, and the old coordinator team were some of the nicest people I've met. The festival has made a very wholesome impact on the entire township, putting an otherwise small town on the map."

That community spirit is precisely what makes events like this worth fighting to preserve, according to Dawn Soltysiak, an area resident and owner of Root Fernwood 1891.

"These types of festivals only happen with community volunteers," Soltysiak said. "It takes a village of people who care enough to give back their time to make it happen. And their efforts are appreciated by so many."

The DDA is looking for someone with strong communication and organizational skills, comfort with computers and online platforms, and ideally, experience managing social media. Graphic design skills are listed as a bonus. Applicants will not be eligible for City employee benefits, as the position is structured as stipend-based paid volunteering.

The festival has long served as a platform for local businesses and organizations, drawing visitors from across Michigan and beyond each fall. With a new coordinator at the helm and the community's enthusiasm still intact, organizers are hopeful 2026 can mark a fresh chapter for one of West Michigan's most enduring small-town traditions.

Interested applicants should send a resume and cover letter to sjacobs@fennville.gov.

Community Events

Event information can be sent to:
wilcoxnewspapers@gmail.com

EVENTS TO WATCH FOR!

Sun. – Sat. 5-9pm: Warming Station when temp below 32 degrees - Community Action of Allegan County 323 Water St. Allegan. Come for a warm spot and a simple meal.
Wed., Mar. 18, 2026: Basketball Brackets Due. Allegan District Library
Thurs., Mar. 19, 2026, 10am-2pm: Volunteer Fair. The Silo M-40 South Allegan
Thurs. Mar. 19-21, 7pm-Sun., Mar. 22, 2026, 2pm: Heroes and Scoundrels. Griswold Auditorium 401 Hubbard St. Allegan
Fri., Mar. 20, 7pm & Sat., Mar. 21, 2pm & 7pm: Working, A Musical. Allegan Performing Arts Center Allegan High School
Sat., Mar. 21, 2026, 6-8pm: No More Empty Bowls. Fenn Valley Vineyard, 6130 122nd Ave., Fennville
Sat., Mar. 21, 2026, 5pm: Allegan County 4-H Spring Auction. Flokstra Farms 5075 Russcher Rd, Holland
Sat. Mar. 21-Sun., Mar. 22, 2026: Golf Scramble. The Fairways Downtown Hubbard St. Allegan
Mon., Mar 22, 2026, 1pm: Bargo. Allegan Eagles Chestnut St. Allegan

CURRENT EVENTS

Wed., Mar. 18, 2026: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
Basketball Brackets Due!
6:30pm: Pub Quiz at Tantrick Brewing – Create a team of 4-6 players, take a library card and demonstrate your knowledge.

Thurs., Mar. 19, 2026: Allegan Gives
Allegan County Community Foundation invites all to learn about giving time, talent and/or treasure to benefit others.

Thurs., Mar. 19, 2026: Preschool Storytime
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
Ages 3-5 can drop in and enjoy stories and activities.

Thurs., Mar. 19, 2026, 10am-2pm: Volunteer Fair
The Silo M-40 South Allegan
Drop in to learn about volunteer opportunities from the many non-profit organizations, businesses, and services,

Thurs., Mar. 19, 2026, 5-7pm: Third Thirsty Thursday
Tantrick Brewing Co 243 Hubbard St. Allegan
Monthly Happy Hour with the Allegan Area Chamber of Commerce and the Jaycees. All are welcome.

Thurs., Mar. 19, 2026, 6-8pm: Euchre Night
Lynx Golf Course 900 Lincoln Sr. Otsego
The first hand is dealt at 6pm, 5 game minimum, no teams, individuals wanted.

Thurs. Mar. 19-21, 7pm-Sun., Mar. 22, 2026, 2pm: Heroes and Scoundrels
Griswold Auditorium 401 Hubbard St. Allegan
Find our who is worthy of wearing the cape of a hero in these shorts written by Allegan Community Players member Spike Kunetz. Reserve tickets at https://alleganplayers.ludus.com/index.php or purchase them at the door.

Thurs., Mar. 19, 2026, 3pm: Acoustic Jam Session
Allegan Eagles Chestnut St. Allegan
Members and guests are welcome to dine and enjoy some fine music.

Fri., Mar. 20, 7pm & Sat., Mar. 21, 2pm & 7pm: Working, A Musical
Allegan Performing Arts Center Allegan High School
In celebration of working men and women, the AHS Drama students will present a unique, localized production of *Work, A Musical*. Tickets can be purchased online by visiting the Drama page on the APS website or at the door.

Fri., Mar. 20, 2026, 4:30-8pm: Fish FRYday
Lynx Golf Course 900 Lincoln Sr. Otsego
Enjoy fried pollack, fries, coleslaw & bread.

Fri., Mar. 20, 2026, 7pm: Michael McIntosh Music
Allegan Eagles Chestnut St. Allegan
Members and Guests are welcome to enjoy dinner or dessert and music with Michael McIntosh.

Fri., Mar. 20, 2026, 8-11pm: Live Music w. Tony & Doug
The Silo 1071 32nd St. Allegan
Enjoy Ol' School R&B, Soul, Funk, Motown. $5 cover charge

Sat., Mar. 21, 2026, 6-8pm: No More Empty Bowls
Fenn Valley Vineyard, 6130 122nd Ave., Fennville
Enjoy an evening of great soups, wine and entertainment, while helping Ladders of Hope food pantry continue meeting the needs of those who suffer from food scarcity. Tickets are available at Root Café, Cranes' Pie Pantry, Fennville City Hall, Fennville District Library, texting 269-348-5909, or at the door.

Sat., Mar. 21, 2026: Beautify Pullman Online Auction – bidding opens
Items can be browsed at https://event.auctria.com/9d82c854-9574-4941-bdce-57bbdf4eeb20/. Then bid on wonderful items. Profits assist in supporting the many activities offered at the Pullman Town Square. Get info at info@beautifypullman.org.

Sat. Mar. 21-Sun., Mar. 22, 2026: Golf Scramble
The Fairways Downtown Hubbard St. Allegan
Three-person teams will go 9 holes for $90 per team. 24 Tee Times from 8am-6pm. Register at 269 655-5890. Get your clubs and prepare for spring!

Sat., Mar. 21, 2026, 5pm: Allegan County 4-H Spring Auction
Flokstra Farms 5075 Russcher Rd, Holland
The Allegan County 4H Youth Council will host its annual Spring Auction featuring a silent and live auction to raise funds that support local youth leadership, education, and community-building programs. Food from IDK Kitchen will be available starting at 5 p.m., with the live auction beginning at 6 p.m. For info contact Maire at macmast9@msu.edu.

Sat., Mar. 21, 2026, 6-8pm: No More Empty Bowls Fundraiser
Fenn Valley Vineyards 6130 122nd Ave. Fennville
Ladders of Hope enjoy all to enjoy a Soup Dinner with bread, dessert, and wine plus a hand decorated bowl created by Fennville art students or local potters to take home. Live music by Ivan Akansiima and Ben Schmidt Swartz. Call 269 348-5909 for tickets & info.

Mon., Mar 22, 2026, 1pm: Bargo
Allegan Eagles Chestnut St. Allegan
Members and Guests are invited to play Bargo, a game played with cards like Bingo.

Tues., Mar. 24, 2026, 11am-noon: Behavioral & Mental Health Roundtable
MACC & the ACCF invite all behavioral and mental health groups to join a virtual, collaborative event to share updates and ideas, discuss challenges and barriers, and explore opportunities for partnership and coordination. Register on the alleganfoundation.org/community-calendar.

Tues., Mar. 24, 2026, 2-3pm: Food Security Roundtable
MACC & the ACCF invite all groups working to improve food security to join a virtual, collaborative event to share updates and ideas, discuss challenges and barriers, and explore opportunities for partnership and coordination. Register on the alleganfoundation.org/community-calendar.

Wed., Mar. 25, 2026, 6pm: FREE Dinner and Movie
Dunningville Reformed Church 2559 M-40 North Allegan
The Dunningville Church invites all to Family Night with a FREE Dinner and Movie. The movie is *King of Kings* as the calendar moves toward Easter. For additional information, contact Dean Nevenzel at 269 377-2402.

Wed., Mar. 25, 2026, 7-9pm: Anne Frank: A History for Today
WUS Admin. Building 893 E. Superior St. Wayland
The WUPS students will guide visitors through a moving exhibit that remembers the Holocaust amd WWII from the perspective of Anne Frank and her family, plus *The Ice Cream Man*, Ernst Cahn stands against the Nazi.

Thur., Mar. 26, 2026, 11am-noon: Access to Medical Care Roundtable
MACC & the ACCF invite all organizations working to improve access to medical care to join a virtual, collaborative event to share updates and ideas, discuss challenges and barriers, and explore opportunities for partnership and coordination. Register on the alleganfoundation.org/community-calendar.

Thur., Mar. 26, 2026, 2-3pm: Healthy Housing Roundtable
MACC & the ACCF invite all organizations working on safe and sustainable housing efforts to join a virtual, collaborative event to share updates and ideas, discuss challenges and barriers, and explore opportunities for partnership and coordination. Register on the alleganfoundation.org/community-calendar.

Thurs., Mar. 26, 7pm, Fri., Mar. 27, 7pm, Sat., Mar. 28, 3pm & 7pm: The Lion King, Jr.
Wayland Performing Arts Center Wayland
Join the Wayland High School Drama students as they share the epic adventures of Simba and his struggles with responsibility. Info on ticket, email tellerc@waylandunion.org or go to https://wufactickets.ludus.com/index.php.

Fri., Mar. 27, 2026, 6pm: Polish Fest
Allegan Eagles Chestnut Allegan
Members and Guests are invited to enjoy a wonderful Polish meal followed by music at 7pm.

Sat., Mar. 28, 2026, 10am-8pm: A Celebration of the Arts
Allegan High School Performing Arts Center Allegan
Free entrance to the 4th Annual Allegan Folklife Music & Art Festival with 40+ artists, Irish dance & clogging performances, native American Pow Wow Dance workshop, guitar workshop w/Rene Meave, bands: Sarita Rose, and Great Lakes Brass, Allegan HS Symphonic Band w/Dr. Alex Wilson & the GVSU Trumpet Ensemble, the Whateferly Brothers, The Whistle Pig Parairie Dog Brass Band from Indiana, Beginners Slow Jam, Instrument Petting Zoo, and Large Advanced Jam.

Sat., Mar. 28, 2026, 10am-12:30pm: Annual Egg Hunt
Hicks Park 101 Allegan St. Plainwell
Fun for the entire family. Activities include an Egg Hunt, an Easter Walk (the story of Easter), prizes for Egg Hunt. Registration begins at 9 a.m.

Sat., Mar. 28, 2026, 2-4pm: Intro to Nature Journaling
Armintrout-Milbocker Nature Preserve Thomas St. Allegan
Join SWMLC naturalist Alice Dykstra for a family-friendly intro to nature journaling. Practice observation skills on the trail through guided exercises (no artistic experience required)! Basic supplies provided; bringing your own notebook and art materials is encouraged.

Sat., Mar. 28, 2026, 2-4pm: Paper Plant Workshop
Tantrick Brewing Hubbard St. Allegan
Join Eccentric Garden to design a plant that's always alive. This plant will look stunning all year round with zero care required. Food & drink can be purchased from Tantrick.

Sat., Mar. 28, 2026, 8pm: Boom Town Band
Allegan Eagles Chestnut St. Allegan
Members and guests are welcome to enjoy the music, food and beverages.

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

ASSISTANCE

Addiction Support Group, Thursdays 7-8pm
1900 Lincoln Road, Allegan
Come as you are.

Adventist Community Service Center
218 S. Farmer St. Otsego Tues. 10am-4pm; Thurs. 1-5pm
Clothes for the family and household goods are available, layettes for newborns, clothing, diapers, toys, etc. for babies to 6 mo. For emergency needs, call 269 694-4775 or Marlene 269 217-8293. This is supported by the 7th-Day Adventist Church and an ACCF TAG Grant.

Allegan County Community Action - Assistance for daily living
23 Water Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.communityactionallegan.org, (269) 673-5472
Food, weatherization, early childhood education.

Allegan Homeless Solutions - Helping eliminate barriers to housing.
108 Grant St., Plainwell MI 49080
www.alleganhomelesssolutions.org, Email: info@alleganhomelesssolutions.org

The Arc of Allegan County - Advocates for people with disabilities
219 Hubbard Street, Allegan 269 673-8841
Mission to advocate for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the community.

Baby Closet – Newborn Clothing and Supplies
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street Allegan
Call 269 673-2254 and leave a message.

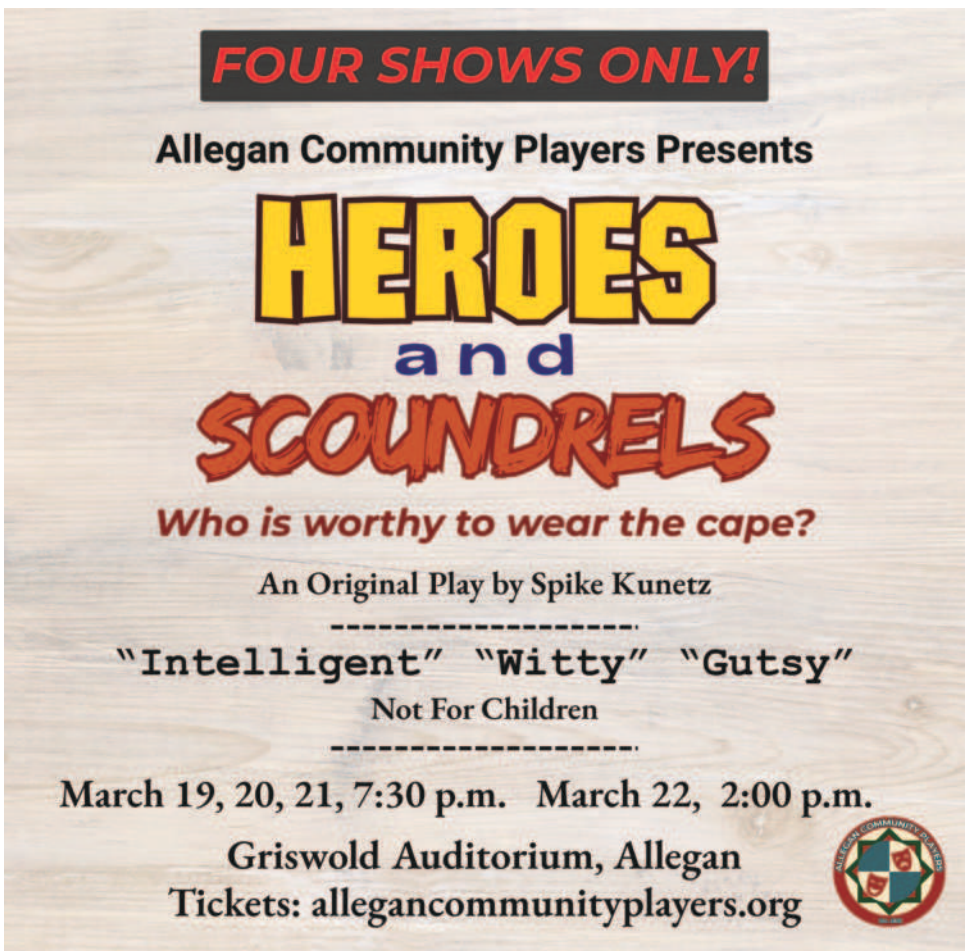
Christian Neighbors - Food, Education, Emergency Financial Assistance
282 12th Street Plainwell MI 49080 (269) 685-4166
Monday: Drive-thru only - 10am-12pm and 4pm-6pm.
Tuesday: In person shopping/walk ins - 10am-12pm
Thursday: In person shopping/walk ins - 2pm-5pm
We have been providing services to the Plainwell, Otsego and Martin areas since 1983.

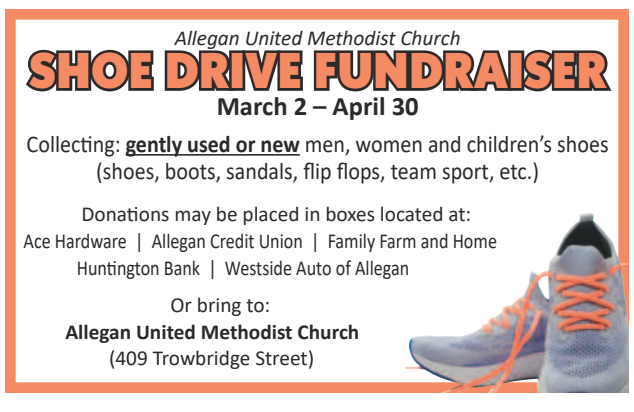
Community Clothes Closet – Free Clothing and More
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street, Allegan (269) 673-2254
Open Thursdays & Fridays, 10am – 1pm A wide selection of clothing for all ages is available.

Grief Support Groups
Wings of Hope invites all to a welcoming and compassionate gathering. 1st Monday of the month – 6-7:30pm, Wings of Hope Office, 530 Linn St., Allegan; 2nd Tues. of each month – 12:30-2pm, United Methodist Church, 322 Maple St., Hopkins; 3rd Monday of each month – 3-4:30pm, Ransom District Library, 189 S. Sherwood Ave., Plainwell; 4th Tues., Grief Support Luncheon, 1pm, Salvino's 1290 M89, Plainwell.

Interfaith Sunday Services
Mothers Trust is a nonprofit that is offering inclusive, interfaith worship services open to all Sundays at 11am at 6676 122nd Ave. Fennville. Information: Megan Hybels 269 312-0369, megan_h@motherstrust.org

Love, Inc.
Love in the Name of Christ 4621 135th Ave. Hamilton





Love, Inc.
Love in the Name of Christ 4621 135th Ave. Hamilton
For assistance with food, personal care items, baby needs, household items, clothing, appliances, furniture, bicycles, laundry, showers & Life Skills Wrap Around Care, call 269 751-2533. Visit www.loveincnwa.org., email: office@loveincnwa.org.

People Helping People of Pullman
Assistance by appt. 269 236-6295

Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center - Abuse Prevention and Healing
404 Sherman St., Allegan, MI 49010 www.safeharborcac.org, (269) 673-3791

St. Vincent de Paul-St. Margaret Conference - Food and More
St. Vincent de Paul 124A W. Allegan St. Otsego
Mon.: 1-3pm Tues. & Thurs: 10am to noon Wed.: 3-5pm
Food pantry and limited financial aid. Dtvincentdepaul9005@gmail.com
Serves Otsego, Plainwell and Martin School Districts

Sylvia's Place - Safe from Domestic Violence
Crisis Line: 269 673-8700

United Church of Wayland - Free Clothing
1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, 4 - 6pm
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

Wings of Hope Hospice & Palliative Care - End of Life Care
530 Linn Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.wingsofhopehospice.com, (269) 686-8659

FOOD

Allegan Food Pantry
Church of God, 1313 Lincoln Rd., Allegan
Monday: 10 am–1pm; Tues.: 2–7pm; Fri. 1-4pm Curbside Service
Contact: Phone: 269 686-6369
Deliveries are made to homebound senior citizens.

Christian Neighbors, SE
282 12th St. Plainwell 269 685-4166

Christian Neighbors, Wayland
122 Church St. Wayland 269 792-2870

Congregational Kitchen - Thursday Dinner Pickup
Congregational Church 325 Cutler Street Allegan
Call (269) 673-3139 after 3pm any Thursday and place an order.
Thursdays: Pick up 3 to 5:30 pm. Takeout dinners only during COVID-19

Epiphany Lutheran Church
4219 Park Land Dorr 616 681-0791

Food Truck - 3rd Friday of each month, 4:30 - 5:30pm
United Church of Wayland
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

The Hands of Grace Food Pantry
United Methodist Church, 409 Trowbridge St., Allegan 269 673-4236
Tuesday: 9-11:45 a.m.; Wednesday: 9-11:45 a.m. and 5-7 p.m.; Friday: 10-11:45 a.m.
Food Pantry serves FOOD to residents of Allegan 49010 w/valid ID with current address ONLY.

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 Maple St. Hopkins
269 793-7340

Hungry for Christ
4565 135th Ave. Hamilton, 269 264-1307 x1000

Ladders of Hope USA - Food Assistance
717 East Main St, Fennville, MI 49408, www.laddersofhopemi.org., 269-686-6456

Martin Area Resource Center
1445 10th St, Martin (269) 672-5605
No appointment needed. Pick up by one person per household.

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St. Martin 269 672-7097

Mobile Food Pantry, 2nd Monday of the Month: Drive Thru Food Distribution
Casco United Methodist Church 880 66th ST, South Haven MI 49090
Pantry items a pre-packaged. Limit - one box per vehicle.

Project Hope
1808 143rd Ave. Dorr
616 681-4673 appt. only

The Vine Food Pantry / Love, INC
Christ Community Church
3370 113th Ave, Allegan, MI · (269) 673-2329

Wayland Farners Market
Apr. – Oct. Wed. & Sat.
Downtown Wayland

FUN FOR THE FAMILY

Bingo!, Wednesdays, 6pm: American Legion Hall
Senior Bingo!, Tuesdays from 1-3pm: American Legion Hall
Corner of Eastern Avenue and Hooker, Allegan

Allegan District Library, M-Th 10am-8pm, F 10am-5:30pm, Sat.10am-4pm:
Plus, Carnegie Corner Bookstore (Friend available on Tuesdays)
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard Street, lower level Allegan (269) 673-4625

Allegan Event – Ropes Course, Walls and More
439 River Street Allegan
Twilight Special: Thurs., 4-9pm, 2hrs. for $18
Free Game Card: Fri., 4-9pm w/ $20 food purchase
Family 4-Pack: Sat., 5-9pm, 4 premier combo tickets w/ pizza+ for $130
For more information call 269-430-3961 or check online at https://www.alleganevent.com

Allegan County Historical Society, Old Jail Museum.
Saturdays, 10 am – 4 pm, (269) 673-8292. Call to confirm hours or arrange for a private tour.
Email: oldjailmuseum06@yahoo.com Webpage: www.alleganoldjail.com

Bear & Fox Yarn Den
Bear & Fox 141 Brady St. Allegan
Tues. 2-8pm; Wed.-Sat. 11am-5pm; Sun.-Mon closed
Enjoy beautiful yarns and classes or Tuesday Stitch Night.

Children's Book Box – Immanuel Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church 631 Grand Street Allegan
Children can find free books in the Book Box constructed by the Sunday School Youth. Check it out.

Iron Bridge Quilters - Thursdays, 10am-2pm
Blessed Sacrament Church 110 Cedar St. Allegan
All ages and levels of expertise are welcome. Create a piece for yourself, for a friend or for a charity. Contact Claudia at acrasmussen5@gmail.com or (269) 673-4579 for more information.

Rivertown Fitness for All Ages and Families
Rivertown Gym & Fitness, 739 Airway Dr. Allegan. Check on the Core and More class. Call Todd at 269 686-7900 or email rivertowngym@gmail.com for additional information.

Scouting: Allegan has a variety of scouting opportunities. Each group is meeting in different ways to stay safe.
Cub Scout Pack 3026: Grades K-5. Call Cub Master Ron Gunter ron.f.gunter@gmail.com
Boy Scouts BSA 91 (boys 11-17 yrs.): Contact Scout Master Rob Keen 269 568-0435, eckeen1112@gmail.com
Girls Troop BSA 191 (girls 11-17): Contact Sara Keen sarajkeen@gmail.com.

Senior Fitness/Fit Over 50: Fun fitness designed for ages 50-80plus!
Hicks Gym, 311 E Plainwell Street, Plainwell. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 9am. Drop in or call Sharrin at 269-330-3204 or email at denzgirllc@att.net.

The Fairways:
237 Hubbard St. Allegan (269) 655-5890
Get assistance with accuracy, distance, course management, club selection, or distance control. Work on a simulator, and treat it like a practice session at the course to achieve overall game improvement.

Tilt 118: Ice Cream, Pinball Machines, Food and More
Tilt 118 118 Brady St. Allegan
Pinball Leagues, Pinball Classes, Arcade Rental
Contact: Email: smalltownamusements@gmail.com; Phone: 269 720-8137

NOTE:
This Community Calendar is an opportunity for all organizations in Allegan County to post events. Please, remember to send your event information to editor@alleganews.com.

We Sell Off Lease Computers!
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atechccs@gmail.com
atechccs.com

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From puppies and kittens to senior pets, our caring and experienced team is here to provide your pet with the very best care and a compassionate touch.
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Dr. Chris Buckley
and welcoming
Dr. Melinda Kelley
Bluegrass Animal Clinic
Accepting New Patients
Bluegrass Animal Clinic
594 10th St, Plainwell
(269) 685-5894
New Extended Hours
8:30am-1pm, 2pm-5:30pm M-F

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March 19, 2026
TIME, TALENT, TREASURE
Come explore our Volunteer Fair, showcasing many nonprofits around Allegan County at The Silo in Allegan from 12-2pm.
Donate to your favorite nonprofit fund at ACCF on March 19th and have your gift DOUBLED! All donations up to a total of $61,000 will be matched.
Allegan County Community Foundation
ALLEGAN COUNTY GIVES
TIME, TALENT, TREASURE

Speculators, not war are driving gas prices higher

MIKE'S MUSINGS

MIKE WILCOX
■ PUBLISHER ■

Every time Americans pull up to the pump, they're told the same story: gas prices are high because of global supply problems, geopolitical tensions, or refinery issues. Those factors certainly play a role. For instance the war with Iran has tightened worldwide supplies, but in reality here in America we get very little oil from Iran.

But there is another major force quietly pushing prices upward—speculators and commodity traders betting on the price of oil.

The price of gasoline in the United States is closely tied to the global price of crude oil, particularly benchmarks like West Texas Intermediate and Brent Crude. What many people don't realize is that these prices are not determined solely by how much oil is actually being produced or consumed. They are also heavily influenced by financial markets where traders buy and sell oil futures contracts—often with no intention of ever taking delivery of a single barrel.

These trades take place on exchanges such as the New York Mercantile Exchange, where billions of dollars move every day as investors speculate on where oil prices might go next. Hedge funds, large banks, and investment firms can pour enormous sums into these markets, driving prices up simply through betting activity. And when tensions breakout in the Middle East, you can bet investors push the price of oil upwards.

In theory, futures markets help stabilize prices by allowing producers and refiners to hedge against risk. In reality, the volume of speculative trading now dwarfs the amount of oil changing hands in the physical world. When investors believe oil prices will rise, they pile into the market, bidding up contracts. That higher paper price quickly filters down to the gasoline pump—even if actual supply hasn't changed much.

The result is a system where American consumers are paying prices influenced as much by Wall Street as by oil wells.

Consider this: global oil production often fluctuates only modestly, yet gasoline prices can swing wildly in a matter of weeks. A refinery outage or tensions in the Middle East might justify a temporary bump. But the magnitude of some price, like the hikes we are experiencing, spikes suggests something else is happening speculators amplifying every piece of news into a profit opportunity.

And because oil is traded globally, speculation doesn't just affect investors. It affects commuters, small businesses, truck drivers, and families trying to balance household budgets. I would say most all consumer goods are affected by the price of oil, hence we pay higher prices.

The irony is that the United States is now one of the world's largest energy producers. Thanks to domestic drilling and shale production, the country pumps millions of barrels per day. Yet Americans are still exposed to volatile prices driven by international markets and financial speculation.

Some policymakers have raised concerns before. The Commodity Futures Trading Commission, which regulates commodity markets, has periodically investigated excessive speculation and market manipulation. But enforcement and oversight have often lagged behind the explosion of financial trading in energy markets.

If we want more stable and fair fuel prices, policymakers should revisit limits on speculative positions in oil futures markets. Greater transparency and stricter oversight could help ensure these markets serve their original purpose—helping manage risk—not inflating costs for everyday Americans.

Gasoline is not a luxury. It is a necessity for millions of people who rely on their vehicles to get to work, take their kids to school, and keep businesses running.

When speculation adds dollars—not cents—to the price of a tank of gas, it's fair to ask whether the system is serving the public or simply enriching those betting on the next price spike.

Life as Performance Art

G CORWIN STOPPEL

Sometime in the 1970s my late wife Pat was hired to run an elder artists program for the City of Chicago. Her job was to recruit senior citizens to design and make art to be sold in places like Carson Pierie and Scott, Marshall Fields and other department stores. Proceeds would be returned to the artists.

It looked simple enough on paper: Recruit a couple hundred people, come up with designs, round up supplies, constantly encourage them, pitch the products to the stores and turn a profit.

Alas, it involved much paperwork, her lifelong nemesis. She hated it. She wanted to work with the artists, hold craft fairs to promote the department and connect with the stores. Instead, she and a handful of secretaries were pushing paper and filling out countless forms and reports.

Then, someone had the brainy idea that the department should buy a couple computers to make their easier. So they did. This involved the infamous dot matrix printers, and reams of computer paper. Pat had high hopes that once the secretaries became used to the devices, all would be well. Wrong.

Soon she and other department heads were getting directives from city hall that the new computers were underutilized because they could gather so much more information. With it came the first of many updates what more information should be gathered.

Before long, they needed more computers, more secretaries and more spending on what Pat called "useless paper" than on the artists.

The secretaries were happy because it meant job security. But when Pat had a sit-down with someone in city hall to discuss this, the person told her, "Well, we have the capacity to gather more information, so we think we fully utilize it."

Eventually she resigned to work as a designer and artist.

Collecting information about people has become big business. My first encounter with it came years ago when I went into Radio Shack to buy AAA batteries. The checkout clerk asked for my zip code. It wasn't because batteries were suddenly classified as a dangerous substance to be traced by the authorities; they just wanted my zip code.

When I told him I would give him those five numbers right after charcoal sprouts and battleships fly, he relented.

Today, we are constantly being invited and cajoled into giving up our personal information. I buy something at a chain store and the cashier wants me to join their club. All I have to do is fork over my name, address, telephone number, email address, and a few bits of data, and then I become a member. Enough is enough.

I like to have a bit of fun with it. I ask the person inviting me how often their club meets? How much are the annual dues? Is it for cocktails and light refreshments? Casual or formal attire?

Does the club have outings or vacations somewhere? Do we get monthly newsletters with cheerful stories about what my fellow members are doing with their lives? They aways reply with puzzled looks on their faces.

I'm suspicious because I'm sure the Big Box Chain just wants this information so they can make incessant robo calls or solicitations disturbing billions of electrons by filling my email boxes.

And then there are the really sneaky companies who, after putting me on hold for a few hours (time, at my age, I cannot afford to fritter away) insist I take a brief survey on the quality of their service at the end of our conversation. Around the holiday season I hung up on one surveyor, but they very persistently called back. When I hung up on them the second time, I think they got the message.

A few years a grocery chain was giving away memberships, complete with a little plastic bar-code fobs that could go on a keychain. In return, they wanted my information. Being something of an anarchist, I filled in my name as Richard M Nixon, with an address of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, in Washington DC. The company accepted it, and I got the discount on the limburger cheese. My guess is that there are a lot of us with the same name in their files.

Of course, all of this information is gathered for a reason. It might not be a good reason, but they all have their reasons. Some are topic secret, such as when our information is sold in bulk to someone else, the company gets more revenue. The second company can take all of that raw information, extract what it thinks might be good, and sells the rest of it on to someone else. That has to be good for the economy because everyone profits off your personal information.

If there is any good news in all of this, I am told that all of our personal information is carefully and securely stored "on the cloud." Now, this cloud is not something that floats around in the sky; it is one of many, many huge computer banks around the country. One of them is the pyramid building not far from the Gerald Ford Airport in Grand Rapids. Supposedly it is secure.

These facilities use a tremendous amount of electricity to keep purring 24/7, as well as more electricity for their cooling system. And, a lot of water, too, which is the explanation for why the water table is sinking. That leads straight to the next big problem of all this data-gathering. It is going to get even worse with each new additional "data center" which is the brains and power house behind AI.

It is putting a tremendous strain on our electricity plants and the 'grid'. So, here is the quiz: Want to guess who is stuck for the higher electricity rates? You got it the first time - it's mugs like you and me. You can be as thrifty as you like, but the cost per kilowatt hour is going to raise your month bill well into the future.

Barring that one super big solar flare that could knock out the electric grid and fry the cloud, (and if it does, this is not going to be a good thing for you and me) there is not much we can do. At best, we can only reduce a portion of this identity mining done by others.

Still, the real question is your comfort level about all of this snooping. It is reminiscent of the East German not-so secret police, the Stasi. They created dossiers on everyone, about their purchases, the people they met on the street, the books they read, and a lot more. This moving straight into "1984" is not my idea of fun and joy.

There are some things to retain a bit more of our privacy. For one thing, quit using credit and debit cards for most purchases. When you swipe, tap, or otherwise fiddle with your card in front of a reader, all of your personal information gets swept up. Supposedly, it is only kept for a few months, but I don't trust that. Years from now someone or some organization will know what you were buying and when, and from where. It could have implications.

An increasing number of people are putting there mobile devices into a Faraday pouch when they are away from home. It means that your phone is not tracking you from one cell tower to the next. For the slightly less paranoid, it means that you can't be distracted by your device while driving.

Over all, we all set our own parameters on how much information we want to give away or share with others. There is no reason for you to be paranoid, but just keep in mind that everyone is watching you.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Body cams- yes or no?

The debate over body cameras for all types of law enforcement personnel (local police, State, Federal, … National Guard) is a great idea. But that only addresses half of the current demonstration participants. The other half are the Non-Law Enforcement Persons (NLEP). To be fair and equitable, shouldn't all those involved in demonstrations have body cams?

Law enforcement persons are issued body cams and are responsible for their operation and maintenance. The body cam is part of their employment obligation and paid for with tax dollars. Law enforcement persons are screened, fingerprinted and photographed for identification. They also have unique identifying uniforms. Body cam videos are submitted for public review.

On the other hand, NLEP demonstrators have no body cams. To be fair and equitable, how about all NLEP demonstrators and official news media reporters be required to have body cams? All that would be needed is to have them register showing identification, fingerprinted and photographed just like law enforcement personnel. Funding would be provided by the groups, currently unknown, now paying for local or national demonstrations; uniforms not required. Body cam videos would be submitted for public review.

It's known that persons joining local demonstrations are coming from many places; NLEP are flown in, signs provided, … and news media alerted via internet encrypted computer internet message applications. Sounds mysterious too; communications coming from hidden sinister persons or companies wishing and acting with evil against the United States. Supporting these actions and enabling demonstration diversity are Sanctuary States, Cities and Towns. Even elected officials support demonstration diversity like the following: burning down buildings, driving over law enforcement personnel, smashing property, … assaulting anyone.

A brief history of Sanctuary Policies.

The creation of sanctuary status in the United States can be traced to the early 1980s, primarily as a response to refugees fleeing civil wars in countries like Guatemala and Salvador. This movement was rooted in religious philosophy providing protection to refugees. The faith-based Sanctuary Movement established this status advocating for the rights and safety of foreigners while ignoring U.S. immigration laws.

I'm wondering, could anyone use a Sanctuary Declaration? It seems what's needed is for those in charge to have a meeting take a vote for Sanctuary Status than announce this sanctuary position to the public, everyone. There is probably some written record of the vote needed but that's not a problem; just send out an email. Done and done. Apparently, any and all with a Sanctuary Declaration would be exempt from the following inconvenient laws:

State Taxes, Federal Taxes, Property Taxes, … ability to ignore speed limits, … or fill a shopping cart without paying.

A Sanctuary Declaration sounds really cool and religiously motivated too. Of course, a question remains, are Sanctuary Declarations legal, even Unconstitutional? We'll soon find out.

Philip Zamlynski

Iran is war of Trump's choice

To the editor:

Trump is at war with Iran. This is a war of choice—his choice—and it is illegal and unconstitutional. Trump considers our military to be his and his alone, free of any constraints, to use and abuse at his whim. With his war of choice, he has given over the lives of our service personnel to Benjamin Netanyahu, the embattled, corrupt leader of Israel. Previously, using US supplied bombs and munitions, Netanyahu destroyed countless lives and most of the buildings and infrastructure of Gaza, one of the most densely populated areas on Earth with an area about 20% the size of Allegan County. For years, Netanyahu has had the fever dream of a regime change war with Iran. Now, he has convinced Trump to step into what is headed to be a quagmire while passing on the cost of the operation to us, the United States taxpayers. The new Supreme Leader of Iran, the son of the man Israeli pilots killed, is proving to be more hard line and resilient. Applying the same ratio of bombs per square foot used in Gaza to attempt changing Iran into a client state is a fantasy worthy of one of Pete Hegseth's juvenile war porn videos.

As citizens of the this country, We are paying for Trump's war of choice not only with our tax dollars, but also higher prices for gas and groceries. This could easily turn into another endless war. Trump might try to declare victory and walk away just as he has done before. Think about all his bankruptcies, the failed casinos, the "improved" Kennedy Center, the East Wing of our White House, our health care system and even the Constitution. He excels at destroying stuff but seems to have no ability to think through the consequences of that destruction. Iran has something to say about having its sovereignty violated. As we write this, its entrenched regime has taken control of the waterway which is used to transport 20% of the world's oil, with the apparent ability to maintain this blockade for an extended period of time.This has serious economic consequences not just for the U.S. and competitors like China, but for our traditional allies as well. Many are abandoning the decades long agreements and understandings we have had with them. Italy and France are negotiating directly with Iran to allow safe passage of ships bound for their ports through the Straits of Hormuz. Trump left the negotiations with Iran hours before he ordered the bombs to fall because the pace of the negotiations "didn't thrill me." Seeing our service members come home in boxes doesn't thrill us.

A recent email arrived from our own hired hand to Congress, Bill Huizenga. As self-serving as ever, he touts how he is supporting Trump's War of Choice. He gives the excuse that Trump must have the "flexibility to confront those who attack us." What? Who attacked who? We hired Mr. Huizenga to represent us in Congress, not to rubber-stamp another dangerous hare-brained presidential scheme. He and the rest of the Republicans in Congress have abdicated their responsibility of overseeing the President. They ignore both history and the law. The U.S. Constitution grants Congress the exclusive power to declare war, as stated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 11. Our founders designed this to ensure any decision to go to war (as opposed to an emergency defensive operation) would involve the legislative branch. Our direct representatives are there to provide a check on the President's military powers. Now Congress has ceded its authority to a wannabe dictator. If Huizenga and his allies don't want the jobs they were hired to do, they need to seek employment elsewhere.

William and Mary Jones

The Allegan COUNTY NEWS

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ADVERTISING DEADLINES
4 P.M. Monday

The Allegan County News and Union Enterprise will in no case be responsible for typographical or other errors, but will reprint that part of an advertisement in which a typographical error occurs. The publisher reserves the right to reject or cancel any material at any time. The right is reserved to reject, omit or edit any material offered for publication.

Obituaries (see additional obituary Page A9)

Maxine Grace (Wall) Barnes

Maxine Grace (Wall) Barnes, passed gracefully into the arms of Jesus, on March 9, 2026, at Allegan General Hospital (Beacon). Maxine was born to her late parents Earl and Madaline (Beals) Wall on September 26, 1935, at home in Cheshire Township, Allegan, MI. After high school and some college, she met Robert Barnes and together shared 52 years of marriage before his passing in 2007. Maxine was an accounts payable-payroll manager with Perrigo in Allegan, MI, working from 1974-1999 before retiring. Outside of work, Maxine was involved as a member of the Pearl Methodist Church, Allegan United Methodist Church, VFW Post 6134 in Pullman, Red Hat Society, and Lady Shriners. Advocating for women to work hard, be vocal, and serve faithfully in their communities. Maxine enjoyed tending her garden, watching her plants, flowers, and vegetables grow. She also loved

Maxine Grace Barnes

going on motorcycle rides, fishing Lake Michigan for steelhead, boat trips in the Florida Keys, and spending quality time with her grandkids. Maxine was full of life, sharing her life skills with those closest to her, and always reflecting on her relationship with Jesus.

She is survived by her children, Candy (Phil Allen) Decker, Cindy (Rob) Harrington, Cathy (Bill) Bender, Jeff (Robin) Barnes, and Kim (Mike) Montoy; siblings, Kenneth Wall, Deanna Repotski, and Wayne Wall; grandchildren, Jesse Barnes, Morgann (Drew) Warner, Jacob Montoy, and Jeremy Montoy; great-grandchildren, Charlotte Grace Warner, Hudson Daniel Warner, and Harper Rae Warner.

She is preceded in death by her husband, parents, and siblings, Melvin Wall, Lyle Wall, Robert Wall, Jane Wall, and Raymond Wall.

Maxine's visitation will be Monday, March 16, 2026, from 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM with a luncheon to follow from 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM. Both the visitation and luncheon will take place at the Allegan United Methodist Church 409 Trowbridge, Street, Allegan, MI, 49010.

Memorial donations may be made to the VFW Post 6134, P.O. Box 154, Pullman, MI, 49450.

Bruce D. Culver

Bruce D. Culver passed away peacefully on March 9, 2026, in Kalamazoo. He was born on October 20, 1931, in Martin, the son of Burt and Theresa (Fox) Culver. Bruce was a lifelong resident of the area and owned and operated his family farm for his entire life. He also spent 30 years as a commissioner for Allegan County Road Commission and was a member of the CRASIF state board for 15 years. Bruce was committed to helping his community and served on the Martin School Board for 10 years and held the position of president. A man of faith, he was a Deacon and active member of the Watson Bible Church. In his free time Bruce enjoyed deer hunting, fishing, woodworking, reading and playing cards. He was an avid Michigan State basketball fan and

Bruce D. Culver

liked watching sports. On June 15, 1951, he married Deloris Tiller. Together they shared 74 wonderful years filled with travel across numerous foreign countries and winters in Anna Maria Island until her passing in July 2025. Bruce found great joy in spending time with his family.

Surviving are his children, Bruce Jr. (Donna) Culver, Charles (Mary Breier) Culver and LeAnn (Ron) Keyzer; 5 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; 2 great-great-grandchildren; Terri Culver and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; wife; brother, Burton Culver along with 3 aunts and an uncle. According to his wishes cremation has taken place. A memorial service will be held at 10:30 A.M., Monday, March 23, 2026, at the Watson Bible Church. Private family burial will take place at East Martin Cemetery. Contributions in memory of Bruce may be directed to Watson Bible Church or Centrica Care Navigators. Messages of condolence may be posted at www.WinkelFuneralHome.com.

Marietta 'Tootie' Zoll Whitaker

Marietta 'Tootie' Zoll Whitaker passed away Sunday, March 15, 2026 in Allegan, MI

Tootie was born in Allegan MI in September 1937 to John & Iva (Allen) Zoll she was the youngest of six children.

Tootie loved life; she was always happy, laughing, singing (she was very well known for her talented skill of yodeling), dancing, exercising & walking, and always on the go, she was one of the nicest people you would ever meet. She loved her family very much and would do anything for them. She met her husband Kenneth "Gene" Whitaker in March of 1956 at the bowling alley in Allegan, MI and in September of 1956 they were married, this year would have been their 70th anniversary. They shared many laughs, fun, and adventures together. You would recognize them from the Dairy Freeze in Otsego MI. They have been the proud owners of that establishment for the last 60 years, they worked and enjoyed life side by side through the years.

Her son Ken Whitaker Jr. and her have spent lots of time singing karaoke, playing pranks on one

Marietta Zoll Whitaker

another, being out on the town having fun, and having many laughs. Her daughter Cindy Whitaker and her had a mother daughter bond that couldn't be broken; they enjoyed countless times and fun adventurous activities together, their last big adventure together was Waggin' Tails Pet Supplies until Tootie retired in 2019.

Tootie was always a hard worker; through her life she always went above and beyond with a smile on her face and never complaining about what she needed to do, alongside of all the long hours she use to put in she raised a family too, she was a very special lady, and her family truly appreciated her and loved her for all that she was.

She is survived by her husband, Kenneth 'Gene' Whitaker; her son, Ken (Flo) Whitaker Jr.; and her daughter Cindy Whitaker; and brother-in-law, Bill (Joyce) Whitaker.

She was proceeded in death by her parents John & Iva Zoll; her sisters, Marie (Joe) VanOrder, Betty (Bill) Michaels, Pearl (Howard) Harrington, Bonnie (Harold) Gomber; her brother, Bob (Marie) Zoll; her mother & father-in-law, Mildred & Milton Whitaker; and her brother-in-law, Jerry Whitaker. She was the last of her siblings, her family knows heaven is having one great big celebration now that they are all together again.

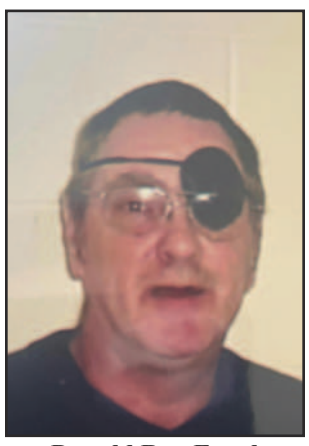
A graveside service will be held at 11:00 AM on Thursday, March 19, 2026 at Oakwood Cemetery, Allegan. Gorden Funeral Residence, Allegan Chapel, is assisting the family with arrangements. Donations can be made to St Judes Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105; or the Wings Home, 530 Linn Street, Allegan, MI 49010.

Donald Ray Engel

Donald Ray Engel, age 78, went to his eternal rest on February 15, 2026. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 44 years, Linda Engel.

Donald is survived by his children: Donna Blakely; Rob Gardner (Robb Melville); Lisa (Dan) Williams; Heather (Mike) Reger; Amy (Asdras) Jackson; and Sara (Terrence) Murphy. He also leaves behind 15 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren, 2 brothers, 1 sister, and many nieces, nephews, and dear friends who will cherish his memory.

Donald dedicated many years of service to Western Michigan University, working at the universi-



Donald Ray Engel

ty's sports complex. In retirement, he continued serving his community as a crossing guard for the local public schools. He was a familiar and friendly face each summer at the Allegan County Fair, where he gladly volunteered his time.

Family and friends are invited to celebrate Donald's life on April 4, 2026. An intimate burial will take place at Poplar Hill Cemetery, followed by a gathering for family and friends from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at Rob's home, 12730 Goldenrod Ct., Wayland, Michigan.

Donald will be remembered for his dedication to his family, his strong work ethic, and his quiet commitment to serving his community. His presence will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

Donita Joann Hebeeb

Donita Joann Hebeeb, born February 1, 1947, in Allegan, Michigan, passed away peacefully on March 10, 2026, surrounded by her two daughters.

Donita built a beautiful life grounded in love, family, meaningful work, and the simple joys she shared with those closest to her. She devoted many years to her career in Accounts Payable, first at Rockwell and later retiring from Parker Hannifin, where she was appreciated for her dedication, reliability, and strong work ethic.

She is survived by her daughters, Shannon (Scott) Hoag and Shelly (Dave) Moorian; her grandchildren, Max Moorian, Kathryn Moorian, Charlie Hoag, and Sam Hoag; and her beloved cat, Lucy. She is also survived by her siblings, Kevin (Ellie) Burke and Wendy (Gary) Churchill, as well as her sisters-in-law, Gail Burke and Joan Burke.

Donita cherished spending time with her daughters—enjoying casino

Donita Joann Hebeeb

trips and shared laughter with Shelly, and shopping trips and dinners with Shannon. Some of her happiest moments were watching her grandsons, Charlie and Sam, play lacrosse and hockey. She loved movie nights with Max, and treasured the special shopping trips she shared with Kathryn.

She enjoyed spending time with friends and had a deep love for animals. Donita was known for her generous heart—she was famous for always overtipping, even at drive-thrus, a small but meaningful reflection of her kindness and desire to brighten someone's day.

She is preceded in death by her beloved husband, Rudy Hebeeb; her parents, Glenadean and Howard Burke; and her brothers, Terry Burke and Gay Burke.

Known for her compassion, resilience, and graceful presence, Donita leaves behind a legacy of love and devotion. Her family will forever remember her warmth, her laughter, and the way she made every moment together meaningful. She will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered.

Celebration of Life

A Celebration of Life honoring Donita Joann Hebeeb will be held on Friday, March 20, 2026 from 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM at The Silo, 1071 32nd Street (M-40), Allegan, MI 49010. Family and friends are warmly invited to gather, share memories, and celebrate the love, laughter, and kindness Donita brought into the lives of so many.

A private burial service will take place at a later date.

George Henry Northrup

George Henry Northrup, 90, of Allegan, Ml passed away March 11th at the Wings Home in Allegan, Ml. He was born August 8, 1935 in Texas Twp, Kalamazoo County, Michigan at the home of his parents, Victor William Northrup and Dortha (Lipp) Northrup. George was only 12 years old when his father was killed in a motorcycle crash just south of Gladwin, Michigan and his mother re-married in 1948 and Bert Sutherby became the father figure in George's life. George graduated in 1953 from Bangor High School. In 1952 George joined the Michigan Army National Guard and served 3 years as a Corporal in the 126th Infantry, Tank Division as a tank mechanic and tank driver. He then joined the Michigan Army National Guard Reserves and served until 1960. He loved riding motorcycles and owned a 1955 Harley-Davidson for several years. In 1967 George married Arvema Lucinda (Hester) Harris with whom he shared 33 loving years of marriage until her passing in 2000. George was a truck driver starting his career driving for what was then called the Otsego Sanitation Service hauling milk. He then bought his own milk truck and hauled canned milk. In the early 1960's George and his brother Wesley teamed up and started Northrup Brothers Trucking. They owned 5 trucks hauling milk to several creameries including Otsego, Constantine, Wayland, and Burnips.

George Henry Northrup

George was one of the first milk haulers in the West Michigan area to switch from canned-milk to bulk tanker. In 1967 and 1968 he served as a Merchant Seaman in the United States Coast Guard aboard many ships on the Great Lakes. He began driving over-the-road hauling everything from refrigerated and frozen foods to flat-bed trailer, hauling steel and large machinery. He drove for McKee Trucking, Robinson Cartage Co., Key Line Freight and MTD Trucking Co., and he also drove tour busses for North Star Lines. George was a member of the Teamsters Union. His driving career took him all over the US and he finally stopped jamming gears in 2017. He loved driving truck and being independent not having to punch a clock in a factory while viewing the beautiful scenery through the windshield. In 1970 George and Arvema bought a 40-acre parcel in Cheshire Township and grew blueberries hauling the harvest to the Grand Junction Blueberry Exchange. He grew corn on the farm and then he began raising beef cattle and continued this venture until 2021 when he sold the farm. George was a religious man and attended many churches in the Allegan area throughout the years.

George is survived by his children, Sharon Benson, Kevin (Beth) Hartwick, Sue (Jim) Clawson, Sandy (Ron) Belden, Lorie Raab and Charles (Sheila) Harris; several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He is preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Arvema; his step-father, Bert Sutherby; along with his siblings and their spouses, Lila (Dan) Baux, Grace (Richard) Maskey, Edith (Richard) Schmidt, and Wesley (Joan) Northrup; his daughter, Shirley Howe; sons-in-law, David Benson and Timothy Raab; and his grandchildren, Seth Belden, Chuckie Howe, Elizabeth Hartwick and Jimmy Phelps.

Visitation will be from 10:00 AM to 11:00 at Gorden Funeral Residence, Allegan Chapel, on Tuesday, March 17, 2026. A funeral service will follow at 11:00 AM with Chaplin Greg Carlson Officiating. Procession and burial will follow at Lindsley Cemetery in Cheshire Township.

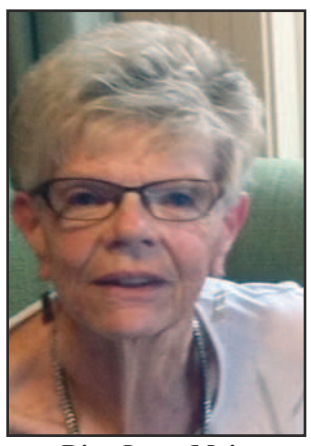
Contributions in memory of George can be made to The Wings Home in Allegan, 330 Linn St., Allegan, MI 49010.

Dian Lynn (Shelberg) Main

Dian Lynn (Shelberg) Main died on February 26, 2026 in Kalamazoo, MI.

She was born in Florence, Alabama, to Edward and Nell (Ray) Shelberg on October 8, 1944. She was raised in Lansing and graduated from Lansing Eastern High School in 1963, and attended Lansing Community College. She was involved in theater as well as raising, training, and showing dogs. As a teen, her love of animals included purchasing a horse without her parents' knowledge.

She met her future husband, Dr. Kenneth Main, while he was in the veterinary program at Michigan State University. After he graduated, they married in 1972. In 1980, they started and built their own business, Allegan Animal Clinic, and moved to their Allegan farm where they raised a menagerie of animals, dozens of dogs and quarter horses over the



Dian Lynn Main

next 50 years. Her pursuit of breeding and showing American Quarter Horses led to her being active in the Michigan Quarter Horse Association and its Stallion Service Sale, serving on its board, and being inducted into MQHA's Hall of Fame.

Dian's creativity and love of crafting led to her involvement in Camp Kidwell and its Festival of Trees and raising funds for the camp and serving on its Board. In recognition of her many contributions, she received the Heroes of Camp Kidwell Award.

For 8 years, Dian was an aide at Pine Trail Elementary School and loved working individually with those who needed special attention.

Dian is survived by her husband, Dr. Ken Main, daughter Chris Main; sisters, Janice Kesel and Ellen Horstman; grandchildren Aiden and Elizabeth Boucher, and Sofia Slopsema; many cousins, nieces, nephews, and special friends, Mitch and Charlis Boucher.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Camp Kidwell in Bloomingdale, MI or Wings of Hope Hospice in Allegan, MI.

A celebration of Dian's life will be held on May 9, 2026 at 1:00pm at Camp Kidwell.

Leighton planners discuss storage facility, cell tower

By Joseph Schultz

How much is too much? That was the question that was considered at the Leighton Township Planning Meeting Wednesday night. At issue was a request from residents Scott and Linda Oshinski to build a 5,000 square foot detached accessory building on their property. The square footage of the barn exceeded what was permitted by the zoning ordinance.

Chairman Ben Potts became troubled about the request when he noticed that the applicants already owned a barn on the property. The two barns would put the square footage well over what was deemed reasonable by the township.

Commissioner John Hooker pointed out that the barn that is owned by the Oshinski's is on a separate parcel. Potts responded that if they were to combine the parcels, it would be a problem. "Why have a rule if we're not going to follow it?" Potts asked the commission.

A representative for the Oshinski's told the Planning Commission that the Oshinski's planned on selling that parcel, and using the proceeds of the sale to build the new barn.

Commissioners were not eager to approve the application with a promise of a sale, nor were they comfortable dictating the sale. The Planning Commission agreed to approve the request on the conditions that the owner did not combine the parcels together, and did not use the barns for commercial purposes.

Cell Tower Request

The Planning Commission also reviewed a request from Horvath Towers to construct a cell tower for Verizon Wireless, near the end of 138th Avenue and US 131. The cell tower will be a 140 foot single pole, within a 6 foot tall wooden fence.

Even though the tower is about a mile from Calkins Field, the FAA does not require lighting on a tower less that 200 feet high.

During the public comment section of the hearing, neighbor Madison Flashaar asked how the tower would affect property values. The Horvath representative told the commission that Verizon did property values studies on the towers and found that the property values tend to go up in value. Verizon concludes that people want cell phone coverage, and they will pay more for a home that has good coverage.

The Planning Commission approved the request, with the condition that the wooden fence will be maintained in good condition.

Fitness Center Request

Anchorline CrossFit fitness center had a request to operate a new fitness center at 4225 Morren Street. However, no one from Anchorline was in attendance at the planning meeting.

Commissioners had concerns about the fitness center having enough parking. With no one to answer their questions, and no one making public comment, commissioners decided the table the request until their questions could be satisfied.

Short-term Rental Ordinance

The Short-term Rental Ordinance that the commission drafted last month was sent to the township's attorney. The attorney is still reviewing the draft, but did comment that he did not think is was strict enough.

It was his recommendation that a cap on short-term rentals, and a special land use requirement be added to the the ordinance. Chairman Potts wanted to know the reasons why the attorney is recommending these restrictions.

The commission hopes to have a final draft and a public hearing on the ordinance by May or June of this year.

EDITOR's NOTE: This story courtesy of Town-Broadcast

Schools, libraries gear up for Reading Month

By Gari Voss

Reading is an essential skill for success in life. March is Reading Month, and schools have found that even reluctant readers will sit with a comfort or therapy dog and practice their reading. Photo: archives

For those with children and grandchildren, on March 2nd, word may have come that it was Dr. Suess' Birthday. Those, especially in the elementary schools, may have been eating green eggs and ham or reading The Cat in the Hat or asking parents to read Go Dog Go! for the umpteenth time. But that was just the beginning of March Is Reading Month.

Schools and libraries gear up for the month by having reading contests. Students keep track of minutes of reading at home with signatures from parents. Staff members and/or principals set goals that if met will require the staff member or principal to do something outlandish… Sit in a rocking chair on the school roof and read for several hours, color their hair a color often on the purple or pink or orange pallet of the color spectrum, or sit while hair is shaved off completely, or have cream pies thrown at them…

For schools who applied for Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) funds, special RIF activities and distributions may occur. Some of these distributions may have been yoked to the Pizza Hut Reading Contest where students could earn personal pan pizzas for their reading efforts.

The overall goal is to develop a love for reading and get information from the printed page. The title March Is Reading Month neglects a component that is often forgotten in the arena of literacy… writing.

A familiar foundational literacy mantra states, "If I can think it, I can say it. If I can say it, I can write it. If I can write it, I can read it. If I can read what I write, others can read it, and I can read what others write."

Developing writing aligns with reading. Reading, beginning with reading aloud then reading silently, can develop fluent speaking skills and proper grammar. When reading, the flow of words and language begin to take root, and those patterns begin to emerge in speaking and writing.

Traveling back to the 1980s and 1990s, Hope College, Western Michigan University, and others encouraged K-12 schools to have Young Author Contests. Teachers worked with students on the writing process beginning with brainstorming, drafting, getting peer and teacher reviews, then rewriting until a final draft was achieved. Schools held local competitions and gave awards.

Troops of actors would ask schools for some of their best stories. The actors would review the stories then come to the schools. The author of a story was asked to sit in the "writer's chair" while the thespians acted out the author's story. The young author was usually thrilled.

In addition, Intermediate School Districts and the universities or colleges would host Young Author Days. The top writers from area schools would gather either at an ISD or university and participate in a conference format. A published author would do a presentation in the auditorium. There would then be breakout sessions where the students would have hands-on activities on anything from creating illustrations to turning stories into songs to improving stories by enriching the vocabulary.

For students who attended the Young Author Day at a university, the result was multi-fold. The students would work on writing and thus, reading. In addition, they would be introduced to a university. A section of campus would become familiar, and there was lunch in a real university cafeteria.

March Is Reading Month is recognized in Lansing. "This March, and every month, we are reminded of the crucial role reading plays in our lives," said Governor Gretchen Whitmer. "Literacy is an ordinary superpower that every child deserves."

Students attending Pine Trails Elementary School will have a Book Fair and Literacy Night on March 26, 2026, from 5:30 – 6:30pm. This will be a culmination of reading challenges, guest readers, theme days, and book distributions. Other schools around the county will hold similar events.

Even before children reach kindergarten, they can sign for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library which is coordinated by the Allegan County Community Foundation (ACCF). The public can contribute to this fund at https://allegan.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create/fund?funit_id=1210.

Many states, including Michigan, and schools, including those in Allegan County, have become more determined to improve reading skills because according to State tests, student reading scores have fallen over the years.

The governor and others are focusing on a solution by making Reading Month extend beyond March. "This March, and every day, I encourage every Michigander to visit a local library, show appreciation for teachers and librarians, and read. Let's keep working together to help every Michigander be a strong reader, writer, and communicator."

Remember the mantra: "If I can think it, I can say it. If I can say it, I can write it. If I can write it, I can read it. If I can read what I write, others can read it, and I can read what others write."

No matter your household income, it's worth it to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (also known as the **FAFSA**). It's the key to unlocking **money for college or career training** — including some scholarships that aren't as income based as you might think (like the **Michigan Achievement Scholarship** & **Community College Guarantee**).

Most families complete the FAFSA in 30 minutes or less.

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- StudentAid.gov accounts
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Heroes and Scoundrels

Working: The Musical

Thespians perform at two locations in Allegan

By Gari Voss

The stage at the Griswold Auditorium and at the Allegan High School Performing Arts Center will be lit with extremely talented thespians who will be weaving wonderful stories. The trick is to adjust schedules so as not to miss either production.

Heroes and Scoundrels

The "weekend" begins on Thursday, March 19, 2026, at 7:30 pm at the Griswold Auditorium, Hubbard Street. *Heroes and Scoundrels*, written by Spike Kunetz, and performed by members of the Allegan Community Players will unravel who is truly the villain or the hero. The "play" is really a collection of seven vignettes that explore the qualities of those labeled "hero" and "scoundrel".

"The play started off as a single short play, where there was a clear villain and a clear hero," began Kunetz. "But as I developed the piece, I began to recognize that these lines are not so clearly defined in real life. Things get messy when you take into account that humans are contradictory creatures: good people do bad things and bad people do good things. So, I wrote companion pieces to examine the different ways heroes and scoundrels get labeled—or mis-labeled."

Heroes and Scoundrels features four shows only at the Griswold Auditorium on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, March 19, 20, and 21 at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, March 22 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are $15 in advance, $20 at the door. Tickets can be purchased online at allegancommunityplayers.org. The play contains adult language and themes.

Working: The Musical

Across town in the Allegan High School Performing Arts Center, the high school drama students will present *Working: The Musical* that incorporates the history of Allegan into the storyline. The intent is to celebrate the many men and women of the Allegan community. The creative team spoke directly with local workers to gain insight into today's jobs and the local people who do them. These real-world narratives have been woven into the performance, ensuring that the stories on stage reflect the lived experiences of our neighbors.

"While the musical is based on Studs Terkel's factual book of interviews, we wanted to ensure that our production captures the specific pulse of our local workforce," explained director Kim Sparks. "By interviewing people in our own backyard, our cast and crew have been able to bring a deeper level of authenticity to these universal stories of the workers who keep our communities operating."

As the production unfolds, the audience will recognize people and places that have been instrumental in making Allegan the community it has grown to be.

Performances will be on Friday, March 20, 2026, at 7:00 PM, and on Saturday, March 21st, at 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM. The doors of the Allegan Performing Arts Center, 1560 M-40, Allegan, open 30 minutes prior to each performance for General Admission seating. To purchase online, visit the Drama page on the APS website, https://alleganps.org/drama/, or purchase them at the Door with cash, credit/debit card, or check.

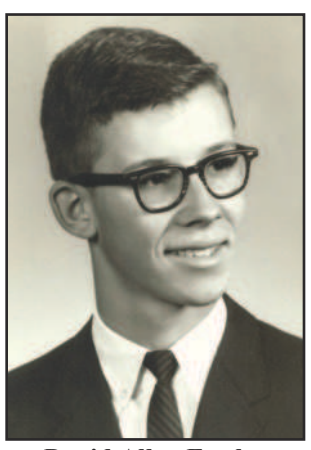
Obituary

David Allen Fowler

David Allen Fowler passed away peacefully on March 13, 2026, surrounded by his family.

David was born on October 30,1947 in White Cloud, Michigan to Trella and Kenneth Fowler.

David was a 1965 graduate of Plainwell High School. He bravely served our country during the Vietnam War, earning him a Bronze Star. David went on to marry his high school sweetheart, Bonnie, and together they raised two daughters. He spent 35 years working for MDOT as an inspector. David loved spending time with his family, traveling, and things like scouring flea markets.



David Allen Fowler

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister-in-law; and great-niece. David leaves behind his wife, Bonnie; two daughters; five grandchildren; sisters; brothers; in-laws; as well as many nieces and nephews.

A small family gathering will be held with burial at Fort Custer National Cemetery.

In his own words written in a sweet note to his family, "Just know that I love you all and it has been a life well lived."

He will be greatly missed. We love you too, Dad.

Arrangements entrusted to the Baxter Funeral & Cremation Service. 269-788-9800. www.baxterfuneral.com.

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Laketown attorney sends letter about odor issues

The attorney for Laketown Township sent a letter earlier this month to Republic Services pointing out the company's obligations regarding a composting operation that is the source for ongoing odor complaints.

On March 2, 2026, the attorney wrote, "It is critical that Republic address this matter promptly and effectively, as the status quo is not acceptable or sustainable."

Republic has received the correspondence, according to the township.

The letter is another way the township is working to eliminate the foul smells.

Adam Brent, CEO/Founder of Cocoa Corp., points out different material piles to Laketown Township officials at the composting site, 4368 60th St., on Thursday, Oct. 2, 2025.

Odor complaints

Residents have been complaining for the last 2 to 3 years about increased odors from Cocoa Corp., a composting operation on Republic's property, 4368 60th St. between the I-196 and U.S. 31 overpasses.

The owner of Cocoa Corp., Adam Brent, acknowledged strong odors do come from the composting material, especially when the windrows – large piles of compost material -- are turned, which they must be by state law five times in a 15-day period. The material is turned Monday through Friday between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. but not on weekends.

In the letter, the township attorney said the composting facility is allowed to operate due to planned unit development agreement approved by the township in 2015 that lists requirements and responsibilities of the operator.

In the 2015 documents, Cocoa said it would cover the compost piles. The piles have not been covered.

Documents also state Cocoa will "maintain reasonable conditions regarding emission and transmission of injurious or obnoxious noise, fire … smoke, dust, dirt, litter, odor … and other similar considerations having an effect on public safety, and general welfare of the people of the surrounding area."

If the composting operation complied with the 2015 documents, "the odor issue will be much improved if not eliminated," the township attorney wrote. "However, if the Republic composting operation is not in compliance with all of the relevant documents, Republic is in violation of its contractual obligations to the Township, as well as in violation of the Township's zoning ordinance. The Township has no intention of continuing to tolerate any such violations."

The attorney asked Republic to advise what actions it plans to take to be in compliance, "so that the Township can monitor the odor issue and decide what if any enforcement and other legal action it must take at this time to protect itself and its residents."

Reporting odors

Township officials toured the composting facility in October to see first-hand the source of the complaints. Township Manager Stephanie Fox has met with Republic, Cocoa and state officials about the issue.

The township has been directing complaints to the state Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy which investigated the site over the summer at the request of Laketown Township.

EGLE investigated the site multiple times last year and no violations were noted.

To report an odor, record your address, the date of the smell, the time of the smell, the wind conditions and other relevant description such as whether it is a garbage-related odor or a compositing/organic odor so EGLE can identify a pattern and help determine if the source is the transfer station or the compost operation.

Send your complaint to office@laketowntwp.org. The township will dispatch a staff member to the site, pass the complaint on to EGLE, and to Republic Services and Cocoa.

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Paving of dead-end street in Laketown Township put on hold

The Laketown Township Board of Trustees on Thursday, March 12, 2026, voted to pause paving a dead-end road due to financial concerns. The board had approved the paving of 61st Street north of 138th Avenue the week before for about $441,000.

The decision, though, came too late in one respect – the Allegan County Road Commission has already put the project out for bids with the bid opening set for April 1.

If bids come in over $441,000 then the board could abandon the project, Manager Stephanie Fox told the board in an email on Friday, March 13.

The next scheduled meeting of the board of trustees is 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 1, at the township hall, 4338 Beeline Road. The paving issue is planned for the agenda. Zoom is available.

Road background

The township in October approved paving the dead-end road, then in January voted to postpone the paving due to easement issues. A landowner did not want the road to encroach on their land. Holland Western Horse Park, 3856 61st St., which supports having the road paved, instead gave an easement to the road commission to realign the road so it can be paved.

On March 4, the board asked the Allegan County Road Commission to pave the 0.35-mile dirt road this year, setting the bid process in motion.

Bid documents

The bid documents and specifications are on the road commission website at www.alleganroads.org under "Projects & Bids," then choose "2026 Projects & Bids." The documents state:

The Laketown Township Board will address the issue of paving 61st Street north of 138th Avenue at its Wednesday, April 1, 2026, meeting.

"PROJECT NO. 400194 – 0.35 miles of roadway reconstruction including clearing, grade establishment, sand subbase, aggregate base, culvert replacements, hot mix asphalt paving, and restoration on 61st Street from 138th Avenue to 0.35 miles north in Laketown Township, Allegan County."

The engineering estimate dated March 13 puts the estimated total cost at $339,634.50.

Bid opening will be 11 a.m. April 1 at the road commission office, 1308 Lincoln Road, Allegan. It is open to the public.

March 12 meeting

At the March 12 meeting, a resident who has property adjoining the unpaved road addressed the board and said he was unaware beforehand of the board's March 4 decision and that spending $441,000 on the road is not in the best interest of the township.

Another property owner submitted a letter stating, "we do not believe the project is warranted given the limited function and use of the roadway."

A recording of the March 12 meeting is available at laketowntwp.org under "Boards and Commissions," and scroll to "Recordings of Meetings."

A 61st Street resident who has been at several meetings advocating for the paving, and representatives of Holland Western Horse Park who also supported paving, were not at the March 12 meeting. The topic of reconsidering the earlier paving decision was not on the agenda ahead of the meeting but was added after the meeting started.

The board does not normally meet on Thursdays. The special meeting was called so the board could vote on the 2026-2027 budget and the submission to the state for a grant to build stairs at Laketown Beach, and address any other issues that came before it.

Supervisor Steven Ringelberg voted against the paving at both March meetings, saying it's not good financially and there are safety concerns about people using the dead-end for illegal purposes.

Trustee Mark Timmerman and Treasurer Jim Johnson, who both supported the paving on March 4, voted March 12 to pause the work.

"This is strictly a financial thing with me," Timmerman said.

He asked the manager to get costs for maintaining the road as gravel.

The board encouraged residents with opinions about the possible paving to write to the township to express their feelings.

Comments can be emailed to office@laketowntwp.org.

Trustee Mike Koeman, who supported the paving on March 4, was not at the March 12 meeting. Clerk Jim Delaney was not at either meeting.

After deciding in January to postpone the paving work, the board asked the manager to coordinate with the road commission to provide snowplowing, grading and graveling of the unpaved road. The seasonal road is not plowed by the county.

In 2023, the township approved an updated road plan for work through 2030. To come up with the road plan, the township looked at the year the roads were last resurfaced, visually inspected the roads and used the Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating (PASER) system. In the 2023 update, 61st Street was listed for reconstruction and pavement in 2026.

Follow Laketown Township on Facebook, Instagram and Threads.

Leighton Twp approves $2.866 million budget

By David Young

Though Townbroadcast called it "The Year of Living Dangerously" for the 2025-26 fiscal year budget, the Leighton Township Board emerged unscathed in matters of money.

The board Thursday evening unveiled a fiscal year 2026-27 budget with $2.866 million in projected revenue and $2.71 million in expenses. This was a stark contrast with a budget adopted a year ago that showed a fund balance of a miniscule $203, or only 1 percent.

The almost $3 million in the current rainy day fund was distributed for other expenses, such as public safety, roads and the fire department, making the final leftover figure $92,005.

Supervisor Steve Wolbrink insisted Leighton was in no serious financial trouble.

In other business at Thursday night's meeting, the Township Board:

• Agreed to spend about $365,000 on repaving 2nd Street from 144th Avenue to 108th Avenue.

• Awarded the bids for mowing to Triple J for Hooker Cemetery and Potts Landscape Management for the remainder of township property.

• Agreed to continue to meet on the second Thursday of each month except in April (the 16th) because of spring break and February (the first Thursday) in fiscal year 2026-27.

• Learned that the Allegan County Road Commission's bill for graveling was about $12,500 less than budgeted, so it was decided to use it with the capital improvements and road funds to pay for the 2nd Street paving.

• Fielded a variety of comments from the audience about the poor job of grading on Ninth Street, which is plagued with lots of water a d deteriorating conditions.

• Approved payment of $3,100 for concrete repair at the entrance of the township library.

• Took no action on a request from Wayland Union Schools to help pay with $13,359 for a resource officer. The schools hired the officer two years ago, but the grant that launched the program dried up this year. Though no vote was taken, it appeared a majority of board members opposed the expenditure.

• Learned from Library Board representative Faith Miedema that the Township Library made $823 from its most recent book sale. That amount will be used to buy new books.

• Discussed, but took no action on the possibility of crafting an ordinance to regulate data centers, noting the troubles that have surfaced in neighboring Dorr Township.

• Approved the budgets for street lighting ($35,392), public safety ($777,785 for coverage from two Allegan County Sheriff's deputies) and Roads Fund ($350,000).

EDITOR'S NOTE: This story is courtesy of Townbroadcast

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Recycling program ends at Plainwell schools

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

During the past three years, a plastic recycling effort across Plainwell Community Schools has turned thousands of pounds of plastic bags into something students can enjoy every day.

Through a partnership with NexTrex, the district collected enough plastic to earn six benches, which are now located at schools throughout the district.

After that successful run, however, the program will come to a close at the end of May due to changes in how the program operates.

Plainwell Middle School librarian Neta Taggett, who started the program while working at Starr Elementary School, said the project became a meaningful way for students to learn about recycling and environmental responsibility.

"The kids have learned how much plastic is wasted in a year," Taggett said. "I can tell you I have also learned how much plastic is wasted in a year, too."

The first bench was earned at Starr Elementary, where the program began.

Additional benches were later placed at Plainwell Middle School, Gilkey Elementary, Cooper Elementary and Plainwell High School, with another provided to a community partner who helped the program reach its recycling goals.

At the elementary schools, the benches are used as "buddy benches" on playgrounds, while the middle school and high school benches are located in courtyard areas.

The program originally worked by collecting 1,000 pounds of plastic bags, which automatically earned participating organizations a recycled bench.

However, Taggett said the company recently changed the program's structure.

Under the updated system, organizations are entered into a drawing for every 250 pounds of plastic collected in a quarter, with a limited number of groups selected to receive prizes.

Without the guarantee of earning a bench, Taggett said the program simply became unsustainable given the time demands it creates.

Taggett is thankful for the community support the program received during the past several years.

"I am grateful for the positive participation from the community," she said. "I am sorry to end the program. It's been a fun thing to do and to learn from."

While the district will no longer collect plastic bags, Taggett noted that residents still have options for recycling them locally.

Many grocery and retail stores—including Meijer—offer plastic bag recycling programs.

"There is no difference between taking your bags to Meijer or to me," Taggett said. "I just got credit for the weight and got a bench."

For Taggett, the program's biggest impact may have been helping students better understand the amount of plastic used in everyday life and the importance of finding ways to reuse it.

From vacant lot to future development: Otsego seeks proposals

By Aaron Mitchell
Otsego City Manager

If you have driven by the intersection of Helen Ave. and Short St. in recent weeks, you will have noticed there is a transition taking place.

At this point you will find a cleared and vacant lot. But any of the neighbors would be quick to tell you that the lot has not been cleared for long.

Going back many decades, the property possessed a single-family residence and a detached garage. That is until 2025 when significant building violations were found on site.

As the City considered any and all options to bring the property into compliance, it became apparent that the easiest and cheapest path forward was to purchase the property from the owner for a nominal amount, knowing that the City would be responsible for paying the back taxes and the cost of demolition.

All in total, the City spent about $35K to take possession and remove all violations.

The exciting part is what comes next!

The City has opened a Request For Proposal (RFP) for the property. An RFP allows for the City Commission to hear different ideas on the development of the property.

While it is definitely not the largest lot, its location is ideal with close proximity to Northside Park and located on Helen Ave., which was completely redesigned last year with brand new infrastructure.

This could make a great location for a small convenience store, a duplex or even industrial offices. There is also great value in the tried and true single-family residential use.

All reasonable options will be considered.

All RFP submissions are due by April 16th at noon.

If you have any questions about the property or process, feel free to send them to City Manager Aaron Mitchell at: amitchell@cityofotsego.org or stop by City Hall.

No matter what eventually is developed on this site, the cleaning of the property alone has brought incredible value to the neighborhood. Any future development is viewed as a bonus at this point!

City administration is very excited to hear the proposals.

Townships seek hot meal reinstatement

By John Raffel
Correspondent

ALLEGAN — Following the Allegan County Board of Commissioner's vote last month to award the county millage taxpayer funded senior meals program to a Kent County organization when the current contract expires March 31, the Gun Plain and Otsego Townships Boards of Trustees passed a resolution urging the Commissioners to continue the proven 20-year relationship with Community Action of Allegan County(CAAC).

Former commission chair James Storey said the Commissioners chose to use the Allegan voters' millage money to contract frozen TV dinner-type meal delivery one to three times a week with Meals on Wheels of Western Michigan in Kent County.

The townships' resolution cites the benefits of the CAAC's hot meals service: "Such a program provides daily wellness checks and offers peace of mind for seniors and their families and social contact through daily delivery, reducing isolation, and promoting community connection."

The townships called out the Commissioners for "the hasty action to dissolve its relationship with CAAC provided no announced plan to fill the gap in hot and cold meal choice and daily wellness services to homebound seniors," Storey said.

The change resulted from responses to a request for proposal (RFP) issued by the county that had been partial drafted by a member of the Meals on Wheels (MOW) Board of Directors who concurrently serves on the county's Commission on Aging (COA).

Despite county statements that the COA had vetted the RFP, it was never presented to the full COA for review before it was issued. MOW and Allegan Community Action responded to the RFP. When the recommendation by the COA discreet committee came to the COA for consideration, it did not include a scoring of the two agency's responses. It appears the only consideration was cost: with the MOW's 1-3 times weekly TV dinner proposal without wellness checks costing less than the current successful program of 5 times a week hot meals and access to ten supportive services through the CAAC .

"Since the Commissioners voted and in response to the absence of wellness checking five times a week in the MO W proposal, county staff indicated they have talked about a wellness program that will be a cost in addition to whatever it will pay MOW for its TV dinner program," Storey said. "Seniors and their care givers now receiving the CAAC's hot meals sent more than 50 comments of concern about the cut.

Anita from Pullman wrote ". ..daily meals from (CAAC) is my only real source of having one balanced meal daily. I am bedridden and can no longer shop or cook for myself. Nell wrote "I enjoy the hot meals. Without the hot meals every day sometimes I'm not sure what I would do.?

Neil's son added "When I'm at work, it (hot meals 5x a week), helps her a lot because she has dementia and forgets how to use the oven and even sometimes the microwave."

Linda wrote: "I have multiple sclerosis diagnosed 56 years ago. My life is very difficult. I would like to have meals fresh and not frozen."

Fred and Candice wrote "My husband has dementia. We are homebound. We had an emergency where I needed an ambulance. Meal delivery came and Faith (meal driver} made sure my husband was cared for."

Christian Neighbors offering free Canva class April 16

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Christian Neighbors will host a free class later this month designed to help community members learn how to create invitations using the popular graphic design platform Canva.

The class, titled "Create an Invitation Using Canva," will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, April 16, in the Education Resource Center Computer Lab at Christian Neighbors, 282 12th Street in Plainwell.

The session will be led by Andrea Villarreal, who will explain how Canva works and guide participants through designing an invitation for an open house or party. The class will also explore cost-effective ways to produce and distribute invitations.

Canva is an online graphic design platform commonly used to create social media graphics, presentations, posters, documents and other visual content. During the class, participants will learn how to use the platform's drag-and-drop tools, graphic options and templates included in the free version.

The class is free, but space is limited to 10 participants, and registration is required through an online signup form. Participants must have an active email address. Those who need help setting up an email account are encouraged to contact Christian Neighbors staff.

Senior citizens may also arrange a free ride to the program by contacting Allegan County Seniors and Veterans Services at (269) 686-5164 at least five days before the event.

For more information, contact Sharon Carper, Demo Kitchen and Program Coordinator, at (269) 685-4166 ext. 107 or scarper@christianneighbors.org.

Afternoon High Tea planned March 25 in Plainwell

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Christian Neighbors will celebrate the arrival of spring with its third annual Afternoon High Tea later this month.

The event will take place from 1 to 3 p.m. Wednesday, March 25, in the downstairs event space of the Christian Neighbors Education Resource Center, 282 12th Street in Plainwell.

Organizers say the festive gathering will include treats, conversation and music as community members come together to celebrate the season and spend time with friends.

Participants are encouraged to dress up and wear a fancy hat as part of a hat contest, with background music provided by the Kalamazoo Area ODPC Dulcimer Jam.

Registration is required and participation is limited to 56 people, though there is no cost to attend. The deadline to register is Wednesday, March 18.

Attendees may also request seating with a specific friend when registering.

"If there is someone specific with whom you would like to be seated, note the name of that individual," event organizers said. "We will do our best to accommodate that request on the seating chart."

To register or learn more, contact Sharon Carper at scarper@christianneighbors.org or (269) 685-4166 ext. 107.

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Smith wins two more state titles, Harper repeats in 500

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

HOLLAND—After graduating from Otsego High School in the spring, senior Liam Smith will take his considerable aquatic talents to the University of Florida, where he'll embark on the next chapter of his swimming career.

Before then, though, he has some business to tend to at the MHSAA Division 3 Boys Swim & Dive State Finals on Saturday, March 14.

Smith won both the 200-yard IM (in a meet-record time of 1:47.38) and the 100 butterfly (47.8). Both of those times were good for automatic All-American honors.

But wait. There's more.

Because Smith was also part of Otsego's 400 freestyle relay team that finished eighth with a time of 3:17.57, giving him All-State honors in three events.

That performance—which earned Smith D3 Swimmer of the Meet for the second straight year—helped lift Otsego to ninth place in the team standings with 115 points.

Hamilton was 11th with 76 points, while Plainwell finished 13th with 68 points, Wayland placed 15th with 51 points and Allegan ended up 16 with 48 points.

Smith finished his high school career with seven state titles in the eight individual events he swam at the state finals. He was second in the other, which came during his freshman year.

"I have no idea what else to say about Liam Smith," Otsego coach Darryl Belton said. "He was named the D3 Swimmer of the Meet, made two All-American times, broke the state record in the 200 IM and won the 100 butterfly again. He's a seven-time champ. The last time someone won the 100 fly and wasn't named Liam Smith was in 2022."

Watching Smith compete in his final high school meet was a bittersweet experience for Belton.

"Obviously, I'm going to miss the swimmer, but I am going miss him, the person, 100 times more," Belton said. "Liam the person, captain, leader and teammate is even more of a champion than Liam Smith the swimmer. He is the whole package."

Joining Smith in earning All-State as members of Otsego's 400 free relay team were sophomore Liam Raseman junior Blake Guerrant and freshman Brayden Meyer.

"Blake missed a ton of time this year with both pneumonia and the flu," Belton said. "We got him back about three weeks ago. He worked overtime getting ready for this meet and he absolutely blew up.

"He swam personal best times and finished 17th in both the IM and fly. He anchored our medley relay team and was out of his mind fast. And our 400 free relay doesn't make the top eight without him doing what he did."

Meyer and Raseman also shined in the 500 free, with Meyer placing fifth at 4:47.25 and Raseman placing sixth at 4:47.48.

Earlier in the meet, Meyer placed seventh in the 200 free (1:47.95), as he was a three-time All-State honoree.

"I wasn't at all sure what Brayden and Liam Raseman would have left on Saturday (after prelims on Friday), but I shouldn't have allowed myself to worry," Belton said. "They each dropped at least three more seconds. What a freaking race they put on.

"And it was especially difficult for both as Raseman had to swim the extra 200 Friday and Brayden had the extra 200 on Saturday when he swam in the finals. Wow."

Like Smith, Plainwell senior Sam Harper finished his career as a state champ.

Harper won the 500 free with a time of 4:32.14, re-breaking his own school record and giving him back-to-back titles in the event.

Harper was also All-State in the 200-yard free (1:41.24), placing fourth.

Senior teammate Aidan Ranger nearly snagged All-State as well, placing ninth in diving with a score of 323.3.

The top eight in each event are All-State.

Speaking of diving, Hamilton shined in that event. Senior Brody Brown finished his career by placing third with a score of 386.55. Junior teammate Jayden Bierschbach was one spot behind with 374.15 points.

The Hawkeyes also received a seventh-place finish from Jack Langland in the 100 free (48.63).

For Wayland, Eddie Oudbier placed seventh in the 200 IM at 2:01.7. Oudbier garnered a second All-State showing in the 200 free relay, teaming with Ethan Manning, Alex Hubbard and Justin VanDyke to place seventh at 1:30.02.

Allegan, meanwhile, had one All-State effort, as Oliver Burnett was fifth in the 100 free at 47.76.

Plainwell senior Sam Harper won the 500-yard freestyle at the Division 3 State Finals, giving him back-to-back titles in that event. (File photo)

Otsego's Liam Smith is congratulated by Otsego coach Darryl Belton. (Photo provided)

Otsego girls fall in regional finals

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

OTSEGO—History.

That's what the Otsego girls basketball team was chasing when it hosted South Christian for a Division 2 regional title game on Wednesday, March 11.

Because with a win, the Bulldogs would claim the first regional championship in program history.

Unfortunately, the top-ranked and unbeaten Sailors had other ideas.

South Christian opened the game by outscoring Otsego 12-5 in the opening quarter and the Sailors never surrendered the lead, ultimately collecting the 67-38 win to bring an end to the Bulldogs' season.

While disappointed with the loss, Otsego coach Tony Koshar chose to focus on the many positives from a season that saw the Bulldogs go 20-3 overall and 14-0 in Wolverine Conference play.

"I thought the girls felt a decent amount of pressure to win districts and get to Otsego for regionals," he said. "And although it wasn't always pretty, we did a great job of fulfilling almost all of our goals.

"We were undefeated in the conference in a year where four Wolverine teams won district championships, which obviously led to the conference championship and we won a district championship. That's to be proud of for a long time."

Koshar also had high praise for Audrey Lingbeek, the lone senior on this year's roster.

"I want to give Audrey a lot of credit for where we ended this season," Koshar said. "Her leadership and competitive nature rubbed off on the whole team all year long. She had a great four-year varsity career, which she concluded with two All-Conference honors and leading the way for us in regionals in both games."

Lingbeek, who will continue her athletic career on the softball diamond at Western Michigan University next year, led Otsego with 14 points.

Mya Engbers joined her in double figures with 12 points, while Brooke Smalldon added seven to go with team highs for eight rebounds and five assists.

Smalldon was named First Team All-Conference, while Engbers and Madden Fitzpatrick garnered Second Team honors and Lingbeek was Honorable Mention. Koshar was voted Wolverine Conference Coach of the Year.

South Christian showed why it came into the game at 25-0, as Lizzie Wolthuis and Sophia Prins each scored 18 points to go with 13 for Abby Prins.

After building its seven-point lead at the end of the first quarter, the Sailors went up 27-16 at halftime. The Bulldogs kept the deficit at 11 into the final minute of the third stanza at 41-30.

But after scoring, the Sailors got the ball back and hits a 3-pointer to extend the lead to 16 points, making an Otsego comeback less likely.

Another triple by South Christian to open the fourth frame made it a 19-points game at 49-30.

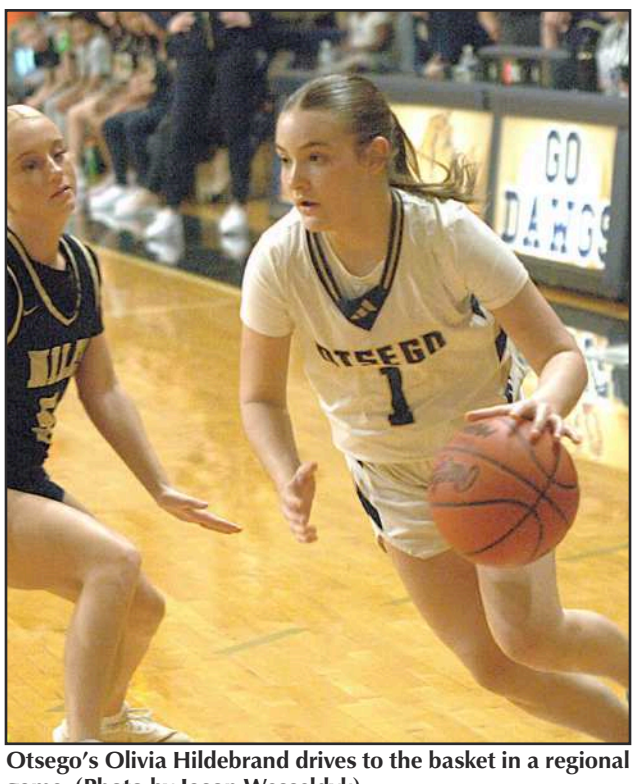
"South Christian is a great team and they really shot the ball well against us," Koshar said. "I feel like the final score wasn't really reflective of the game, as we trailed by 11 with under a minute left in the third quarter.

"Give South credit for how they closed the third quarter and opened the fourth. After that, we tried to pick up our pressure game—which we hadn't done much of as we didn't think it would be too effective against them—and they were able to pull away to the final outcome.

"Ultimately, we had some great opportunities early in the game at the rim and didn't take advantage of them. When you're playing the No. 1 team in the state, that's not a recipe for success."

Koshar was proud of the fight his team showed.

"We did show our grit and resolve as we stuck around and kept the pressure on them to perform," he said. "That was a microcosm of the whole year as we displayed that in coming back from a few double-digit deficits and just handling the switch from hunter to hunted during the season."



Otsego's Olivia Hildebrand drives to the basket in a regional game. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

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ATHLETE of the WEEK

Liam Smith
Otsego
Boys Swim & Dive

It's hard to image having a better high school swimming career than the one put together by Otsego senior Liam Smith.

Competing at the Division 3 State Finals on Saturday, March 14, Smith won state championships in both the 200-yard IM and the 100-yard butterfly. That gave him a total of seven state titles to go with one runner-up finish (as a freshman) at the Finals.

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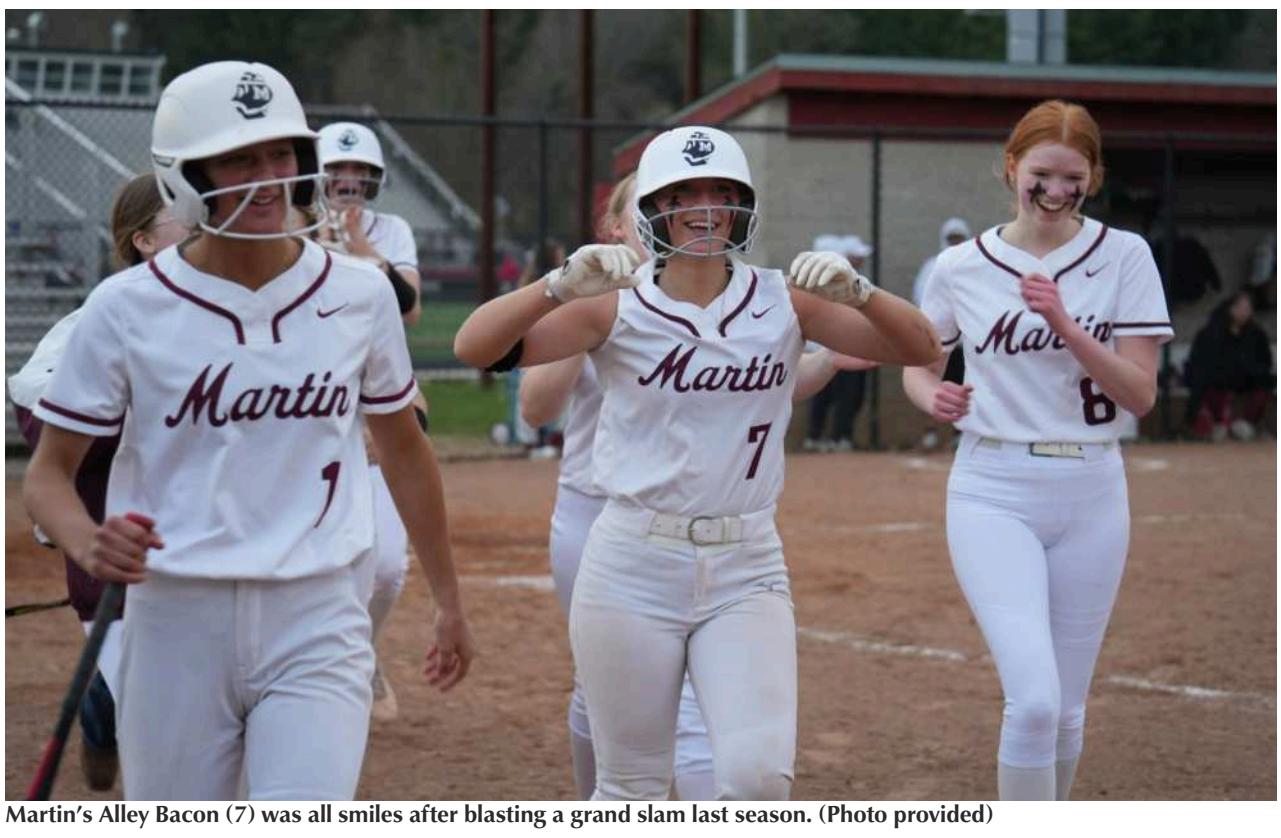
Softball Preview:

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor


Martin's Alley Bacon (7) was all smiles after blasting a grand slam last season. (Photo provided)

ALLEGAN

As she enters her first season as head coach at Allegan, Danielle Brodhagen said the team has one primary focus.

"We're focusing on being women of integrity," she said.

Because if the players on the team approach everything with integrity, Brodhagen believes success will eventually come.

"We have the 'we get to play' attitude and we are not taking this sport for granted," she said. "If we commit to the work, grow every day and lead with character, success will follow.

"We are ready to lay the foundation for a great Allegan Tiger softball legacy."

In the short time she has worked with the team, Brodhagen has already seen progress.

"We are a young team, but we're committed to playing together and playing to win," she said. "We have already seen growth in a short time."

This year's roster doesn't include any seniors, meaning younger players will have to step up.

Adrianna Fee, Isabelle McGowen and Maia Perez are the three juniors. Sophomores Ella Jones, Brooklyn Klok, Alexis McCoy, Allea Pinnell, Annabell Roden, Sophie Schuyler, Vala Strong and Alaina Termeer join freshmen Sophie Nichols, Brooklynn Raber, Tessa Ritzema and Zoey Thayer in rounding out the team.

"We are still earning positions at this time and the best players will lead the position that best fits them and the team," Brodhagen said. "I have not personally seen our contenders in our conference, but we will come to compete and have fun in every game we play."

FENNVILLE

Ambitious. Hardworking. Eager.

Those are the adjectives second-year Fennville coach Meri Sanchez used to describe her team as it prepares to head into the 2026 campaign.

"Our goal this season is to grow each game, build confidence and continue developing a strong foundation for the program," said Sanchez, who guided the Blackhawks to a 14-17 record a year ago.

Although the roster does include four seniors, the squad will be young overall. As there is no JV team this year, four freshman and three sophomores will be among the team's 15 players.

"Our team is young this year and with only a varsity team, we'll be relying on many players to step into bigger roles," Sanchez said. "I believe our strength this season will be our ability to get the ball in play, as well as our players speed.

"Another strength for our team is versatility in positions with some of our younger players."

The quartet of pitcher/shortstop Lily Achterhof, utility player Makaihla Steanburg, utility player Reese Anaya and outfielder Rylee Geister make up the senior group.

Juniors Ryleigh Wilson (outfielder), Veda Steward (catcher/outfielder) and Kenzie Mcillwain (infielder) also return, as do sophomores Amiyah Johnson (third baseman/shortstop) and Marynn Winne (center fielder).

Junior outfielder Adriana Hicks and sophomore outfielder Claudia Rasmussen join freshmen Ella Heavilin (first baseman), Hayden Johnson (pitcher/outfielder), Sena Kamekona (first baseman/outfielder) and Stella Michele (catcher) as newcomers.

"With our team being so young, I still believe this is a developmental year," Sanchez said. "That being said, it is our goal to compete in every game."

Sanchez believes the Blackhawks made strides in that area last year.

"One of our biggest accomplishments last year was beating Saugatuck in the first round of districts," she said. "Another accomplishment was being competitive in more games and winning more than we have in years past."

Having Liza Edewaard, a 2019 Hamilton graduate, join the coaching staff should only help the Blackhawks development.

"Liza's strengths include outfield, hitting and bunting," Sanchez said.

HAMILTON

Experienced.

If Hamilton coach Mark Behnke had to choose one word to describe this year's team, that just might be it.

The Hawkeyes return all but two players from a squad that posted a 28-10 record, won a district championship and finished as regional runner-up.

Given the level of experience—and talent—on the roster, Behnke is excited about what the upcoming season could hold.

"I think we will be led by our pitching and hope to create an offensive brand of softball that is exciting," he said.

Senior Kelsey Mersman is expected to lead the pitching staff, with junior Julia Brown and sophomore Bella Goetsch also returning with varsity pitching experience. When not pitching, Mersman will play infield. Brown and Goetsch also play outfield.

Other returning players include the senior tandem of infielder Maleena Luckadoo and Bella Bariuz, junior infielder/outfielder Brooke Petroelje and sophomores Lexi Mersman (infielder), Kendall Cornell (catcher/outfielder) and Sarah Brink (outfielder).

Junior infielder Korinne Shepard joins the freshmen trio of infielder/outfielder Braelyn DeHorn, infielder/outfielder Aliyah Pitsch and infielder Roxy DeVries in rounding out the roster as newcomers.

It's a group Behnke believes is capable of big things, but …

"Until we go out and do it, projections live in the theoretical," he said. "If we want to go deeper into the state tournament, we will have do those things which we've never done."

Before getting to the state tournament, the Hawkeyes will focus on the OK Black, which should include many competitive battles.

"Our conference is wide open," Behnke said. "We hope to be team that can compete with the OK Black's best."

HOPKINS

A familiar face will be guiding Hopkins this year.

After eight years away from the dugout, Casey Schoenborn is returning for her second stint as head coach for the Vikings. She replaces Amy Funk, who led the team to a 19-15 record last year, resigned the post after agreeing to be head coach of the Hopkins varsity volleyball team.

And from what she's seen so far, Schoenborn believes Hopkins has a chance to put together a very successful season.

"We have a great group of players who are willing to learn," she said. "We are going to be competitive and we have tons of potential."

Five returning players lead the way, led by the senior duo of infielder Kelsey Burgess and infielder/outfielder Calleigh Washburn.

Juniors Maddie Veldheer (catcher/infielder) and Gracie Stallard (pitcher/infielder) join sophomore utility player McKenna Funk as the other returning players.

Top newcomers who could contribute include junior infielder Leah Williams and freshman pitcher/infielder Jorja Wood.

"We have a lot of versatility amongst players, which should help us as we can mix and match girls at a lot of positions," Schoenborn said.

That should help the Vikings' as they strive to make a mark in the OK Silver standings.

"We're planning at being at the top of the conference," Schoenborn said.

■ see Softball, Page B3

Allegan tennis faces Portage Central, Otsego

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

PORTAGE—The Allegan girls tennis team got an early look at its 2026 lineup with preseason action at the Maple Street YMCA.

The Tigers faced Division 1-ranked Portage Central as well as former Wolverine Conference rival Otsego in the multi-team event.

"The girls really battled hard against PC and showed some great energy against Otsego," Allegan coach Damien Arthur said.

The format featured two 40-minute windows per flight against each opponent, allowing teams to rotate lineups and gain valuable early-season experience.

Allegan dropped a 7-1 decision to Portage Central, with Madison Cook and Ireland Dewey earning the Tigers' lone win at No. 1 doubles.

Against Otsego, Allegan turned in a strong showing, winning 7-1 overall. Addy Fales (No. 1 singles), Camdyn Drozd (No. 2 singles) and Kendall Halstead (No. 3 singles) each picked up victories, while the doubles teams of Cook and Dewey (No. 1), Hanna Kievit and Taylor Fuller (No. 2), Emma Scheffler and Sophia Augustine (No. 3), and Kaylee Haas and Hailey Gauthier (No. 4) also recorded wins.

Arthur said these matches served as a strong starting point for the season.

"We're off to a great start in the young 2026 season," he said.

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Softball ■ *from Page B2*

MARTIN

There are good things happening with the Martin softball program.

Most notably, the Clippers have enough players to field a JV squad for the first time in more than a decade.

"Our goals for this season are to continue to grow," Martin coach Jazmin Curry said. "We have increased our numbers of participation by a significant amount, which is great to see. We are still going to be pretty young, similar to last year, but we have a strong group of seniors to lead our team."

The senior contingent includes outfielders Eden Suk and Jade Hooper along with third baseman/shortstop/catcher Alley Bacon.

Juniors Malina Adams (catcher), Maggie Sego (second baseman/outfielder), Anna Jager (outfielder) and Mackenzie Schwartz (first baseman/outfielder); sophomores Maybelle Noble (first baseman), Allison Rodgers (pitcher/second baseman) and Milee Schwartz (shortstop/pitcher); and freshmen Kylie Meyers (pitcher/outfielder), Maya Walley (middle infielder), Morgan Thompson (pitcher/first baseman), Noellya Lemus (catcher/outfielder) and Allison Dodds (first baseman/outfielder/pitcher) are also on the team.

With Marybeth Ritchie, the team's starting pitcher last season, out following an injury suffered during basketball, some young players will need to step up in the pitcher's circle.

"A major storyline heading into the season will be the development of the pitching staff," Curry said. "With several young pitchers expected to see significant innings, the team will rely on steady defensive play and strong communication to support them in the circle.

"As the pitchers grow more comfortable at the varsity level, their confidence and command are expected to improve throughout the season."

Offensively, the focus will be on consistency, smart base running and putting pressure on opposing defenses.

"With many underclassmen in the lineup, we are going to be emphasizing fundamentals, situational hitting and team chemistry," Curry said. "The goal early in the year will be steady improvement, gaining experience and competing in every game as the team continues to mature over the course of the season."

In divisional play, Curry sees Gobles and Saugatuck as two of the top teams.

"I think we'll be battling out with those teams like last year," said Curry, who led the Clippers to a second-place finish behind Gobles a year ago.

Otsego's Audrey Lingbeek is back for her senior season. (File photo)

OTSEGO

There will be many familiar faces on the Otsego roster this season.

That's because of the 11 players expected to comprise the team, nine are returning members of last year's squad.

That level of experience should bode well for the Bulldogs as they hope to improve on last year's 18-18 mark and compete for one of the top spots in the Wolverine Conference.

"We have nine girls coming back from last years, so we will have a solid squad," said coach Jake Knash, who brings a 215-179 career record into the new campaign. "I expect good things from this group. With our leadership and experience, we should be competitive every night."

That experience and leadership starts with the teams five seniors, three of whom have played at the varsity level since their freshman season.

Pitcher/shortstop Audrey Lingbeek headlines that group. Lingbeek has committed to continue her career at Western Michigan University next season.

Third baseman/outfielder Alyvia Farrell, catcher/outfielder Sydneigh Mosher, third baseman/outfielder Maddie Back and outfielder Sophia Pierce are also part of the senior contingent.

Junior first baseman Sophie Staeven joins the sophomore group of catcher/outfielder Mikayla Bateman, second baseman/pitcher Addy Lucas and first baseman/outfielder Emma Zimmerman as the other returning players.

Freshman infielder/pitcher Rylee Knash and junior outfielder Riley Watson round out the roster.

When it comes to the Wolverine Conference, Division 2 state runner-up Paw Paw should be the favorite, according to Jake Knash.

But in district play last year, the Bulldogs proved they could go toe to toe with Paw Paw, as Otsego took the Red Wolves to 10 innings before suffering the 2-1 loss.

"Paw Paw is probably the conference favorite, but I think we will have a handful of teams fighting for top spots," Coach Knash said. " And we finished strong against them in districts. We will build from that."

PLAINWELL

Steady progress.

That's what Don Seibert has witnessed in his six years as coach for Plainwell, as the Trojans win total as steadily improved.

If that upward trend is to continue this year, then several young players will need to step up and fill the void left by the graduation of five starters, who of whom were All-District selections.

Rae Stallard is one of several seniors who will lead the way for the Wayland softball team this year. (File photo)

But rather than feeling anxious about the prospects of fielding such a young team, Seibert is excited about the team's potential.

"This is a young team with a lot of talent," he said. "I expect the girls to move base runners to produce runs. We need to focus on the little things to be in games to stay in games and get a win each night.

"The girls are showing they can hit the ball and that has to continue into games. The girls are excited and prepared for a tough competitive season."

The five retuning players for the Trojans include juniors Paityn Holbrook (outfielder), Taya Miller (infielder), Tatem Johnson (infielder/outfielder) and Miley Cooper (outfielder). Sophomore pitcher/outfielder Claire Bradley is also back.

First-year seniors Kassie Wanamaker (catcher/infielder), Grace Sullivan (outfielder) and Bella McNett (outfielder) join juniors Lizzie Milliman (infielder) and Addie Gillies (infielder) and freshman Bri DeSmit (catcher/infielder), Madison Wheaten (pitcher) and Kaelyn Seibert (pitcher/infielder) as newcomers.

It's a group that has plenty of speed and versatility, according to Don Seibert.

"This is one of the quickest teams Plainwell has seen in the past few years and there a several girls who can play a variety of positions," he said. "The girls are showing they can put the ball in play and work as a team.

"We have young pitchers, but if they can it spots, we will be in games."

Don Seibert believes Paw Paw, which finished runner-up in Division 2 last year, should be the team to beat in the Wolverine Conference along with Edwardsburg.

"Those two teams continue to be powerhouses," he said. "With a young team, we need the bats to be strong make plays in the field to compete. Our goal is to stay in the middle of this conference for the upcoming season."

WAYLAND

Last year, Wayland racked up a 33-8 record that included OK Gold Conference and Division 2 district championships.

In other words, just another year for the Wildcats under the guidance of legendary coach Cheri Ritz.

And with all but two players from that team back again, this year promises to be another enjoyable one for Wayland softball fans.

Senior Madi Ludema leads the list of returning players, as she is the team's top pitcher (2.17 ERA last season) and one of its top hitters (.615 average with a school-record 25 doubles).

Fellow seniors Shelby VanHouten (first base/left field), Mackenzie Kositzky (first base), Rae Stallard (third base), Kaylee Lown (catcher), Laney Wolf (center field) and Kennedy Lown (outfield) are also back.

Juniors Madison Jordan (first base/outfield), Hannah Hoevenaar (first base/outfield), Clara Dutkiewicz (second base), Lauren Page (second base/outfield) and Eme Carlson (shortstop) join sophomore Charity Laker (pitcher/shortstop) and freshman April Gates (pitcher) in rounding out the roster.

"It should be another competitive season for us," Ritz said. "We have six girls who can pitch, which is always nice. We also have a great nucleus of girls returning this season, as we only had two seniors last year."

***NOTE**: No preview information was received from Saugatuck prior to deadline.*

RELIGION SECTION

A new retirement community is being built in a suburb of Madison, Wisconsin. When it opens later this year it will be known as Agrace's Dementia Village. Instead of the usual design of retirement communities, some of which seem as if they are warehouses for those who are waiting for God, this is a small village setting intended to engage all the senses of the residents and their visitors. It is a true village, with shops and restaurants, parks with benches, solid picnic tables, and opportunities for the residents to participate in the gardening, etc. The whole concept is to create a gentle, idealistic neighborhood out of the past. It is a vast improvement over playing endless games of bingo for small prizes.

Most importantly, like the original memory village in the Netherlands, all of the staff members will be taught how to enter into the lives of their residents. No more aides bursting into a room demanding to know, using a sing-song voice to ask, "And how are WE feeling today?" No treating residents like they are children to be managed, but valued older adults. The staff learns how to fit into the world of the residents.

The concept is fascinating, and a welcome change.

A central theme throughout the Bible, but especially in the teachings of Jesus, is creating and maintaining a high standard of hospitality for others. We read of Abraham welcoming the three guests to his camp, and instructions from God to Moses that the Israelites were to welcome refugees and visitors. St Paul clamped down hard on the Corinthians and told he didn't want to hear about anymore 'brown bag lunches' where people ate the food they brought. Rather, he told them to make it into a potluck dinner where food is shared. Throughout the Gospels Jesus constantly pointed out that how we treat others is a reflection of our faith.

One of the most overlooked or neglected segment of our society are the elderly. Elder abuse is far too common; loneliness is the root cause of most fatal illness among older people. Unfortunately, some retirement communities are little more than sterile facilities with long halls and shut doors. Too often, whether in their own homes or a facility, they are seen as a burden, an expense, a non-contributing semi-person.

This memory community changes the focus and dynamic. It puts an emphasis on treating others as we want to be treated, and embodies the philosophy hospitality. Many people, as they learn of Agrace's Dementia Village in Wisconsin hope to see a growing change to elder care because they know it is an expression of Christ's love for all people.

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269.264.4900
Gracechurchofhamilton@gmail.com

Hope Lutheran Church
290 12th St., Plainwell
(269) 685-1348
Pastor Nicole Smith
Worship 10:30am; S. School 9:15am

Hopkins Community Reformed Church
2142 128th Ave., Hopkins
(269) 793-7361
hopkinscommunitychurch.net

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 N. Maple St., Hopkins
(269) 793-7323
Pastor Kelsey French

Horseshoe Community Bible Church
4950 104th Avenue, Grand Junction
269-521-4580 ·
Pastor Don Miller

Immanuel Lutheran Church
631 Grand Street, Allegan
Church: 673-3335
Rev. Christopher Laughlin

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witness
2199 Taft Road, Allegan
Phone: 673-6179

Living Waters Community Church
5458 M-89, Fennville
Service: 10:30 Sundays
Pastor Andrew Leach
269-561-5277

Martin Reformed Church
1073 W. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor: Matthew Hendricks
672-5596

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor Margaret Stoken
269-672-7097
www.martinumc.org

Merson Church
3313 102nd Ave., Gobles, MI
Office: 673-5274
www.mersonchurch.org

Montage Ministries
"A Community in Worship"
Griswold Auditorium
Tuesdays 6:30-8:00pm

Monterey Center United Methodist Church
3022 130th Ave.
Monterey Center, 49328
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
793-7288

Mt. Calvary M.B. Church
5425 105th Ave., Pullman
Pastor Everett Belue
269-382-3405

New Hope Baptist Church
2011 Lincoln Road (M-40 N)
Pastor Tadd Butler
673-1938

Northbridge Church
8824 Douglas, Kalamazoo
269-385-4378 ·
www.northbridge.cc

Northpoint Ministries
04077 M40 (M40/CR390)
Gobles MI · 269.628.9199
Pastor Gary Lounsberry
Sunday Worship: 11am

OAKLAND CRC
4460 38th Street
Hamilton. Mi. 49419
616 688 5290
Pastor Mark Vande Zande

Otsego United Methodist Church
223 E Allegan St. Otsego MI
10:00 a.m. Worship
Reverend Dan Minor
Otsegomethodistchurch.org

Pathfinder North Church
(A Global Methodist Church)
532 M 89, Otsego, MI 49078
9:30 Fellowship 10:00 Worship
Rev Ron Hansen
Pathfindernorth.com

Peace Lutheran Church
805 S. Wilmott St., Otsego
www.peaceotsego.com
694-6104

Pearl United Methodist Church
1689 56th St., Fennville
269-561-5048 Worship 9:30 am
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

Pentecostal Church of God I.M
2281 57th St, Fennville
Wed/Miércoles @ 7:00 pm
Sunday/Domingo @ 10:00 am
Worship Service @ 11:00am
Rev. Jeremias & Maribel Gaytan
231) 923-6887 - (231) 923-6959
Email: gytnj@yahoo.com

Plainwell Church of Christ
911 James St.
Plainwell, Michigan 49080

Plainwell First Baptist Church
404 W. Bridge St., Plainwell
(269) 685-8888
Pastor George Osborn

Plainwell First United Methodist Church
200 Park St. Plainwell
269-685-5113
www.fumcplainwell.com

Rectify Church
247 N. Main St., Allegan
616-218-1556
Pastor Sarah Montgomery

Redemption Place Church of God
1900 M-40, Allegan
Pastor Deborah Lesher
Church: 269-355-1167

Refreshing Springs Ministries
201 Briggs St., Allegan
616-510-7416
Pastor Adrian Hall

River of Life Church
605 W. Allegan, Otsego
269-672-9904
www.alleganchurch.com

Seventh Day Adventist Church
229 Cutler Street, Allegan
Dan Rachor, Pastor
Church: 673-3284

Shelbyville United Methodist Church
938 124th Ave., Shelbyville
672-7097 - Church office
Pastor Margaret Stoken

South Monterey United Methodist Church
Pastor Kelsey French
Church: 793-7323

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church
11850 9 Mile Rd., Shelbyville
269-664-4345
Service: Sundays 9:30 am

Saint John's Church Of God In Christ
716 Academy St, Allegan
Rev. Jeremiah Johnson Sr.
Phone: 673-8590—673-3007

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
1764 34th St., Allegan
Pastor Ronald Kruse 673-2079
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

St. Margaret's Catholic Church
766 S. Farmer St., Otsego
269-694-6311

Third Coast Community Church
www.thirdcoastff.org |
269.857.5633
6069 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck, MI 49453
Sunday Worship: 10:00am

Trowbridge Community Church
355 26th Street, Otsego
Pastor Mykel Hall, Pastor
Church: 673-5502

Unity Baptist Church
35 14 12th St. Wayland
Pastor Kelly Ryan
Cell # (269) 330-2217

Watson Bible Church
1626 116th St., Otsego
Pastor Tim Morris
672-2166

Wayland Community Church
502 West Superior, Wayland
(616) 877-6134
Worship Sunday @ 10:30am

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RAPA Rapa Electric, Inc. 1173 Lincoln Rd., Allegan 673-3155/673-3157

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Peek at the Past

From the pages of The Allegan News and The Allegan County News and Gazette:

March 22, 1951

City's first veteran of Korea returns: Marine Private First Class Ray Printup, Allegan's first veteran of the Korean war to return home under the new rotation system, had to travel more than 2,000 miles to find out "what happened" in Korea.

Here in the neat, new trailer home of his father, Gordon Printup, the Marine found a complete scrap-book of the Korean fighting kept faithfully by his father throughout the long months Ray was in Korea.

Ray admitted the scrapbook contained more information on the "big picture" than he, a gunner on an M-26 tank attached to the Fifth Marine Regiment, could tell.

The book was also helpful in supplying the dates of different actions, for men in combat tend to lose track of the days.

"Nothing unusual happened to us," Ray said. Cross-examination was necessary to get him to admit he had lost one tank, when Chinese Reds put out of action with a satchel charge during the withdrawal from Hagaru-ri to Hamhung.

For Ray and the other Marines, that withdrawal will probably remain an unforgettably bitter experience.

All but one precinct in Allegan County use the type of optical scanning voting machines now being considered for purchase in Florida. With a city election looming, Allegan employee Liz Sweeney pulled the optical scanner out of storage. (Photo by Dan Kelsey)

March 18, 1976

Ambulance system expands in Plainwell: A newly installed radio system in both Plainwell Ambulance vehicles allows medical technicians to talk directly with a doctor while the ambulance is rushing to the hospital.

Called the HERN (Hospital Emergency Radio Network) system, the radio allows an ambulance driver to dial a six-digit number that will connect him with any hospital in the state that has a HERN receiver.

"It's a great system," says Plainwell Ambulance owner Chester Walker. "We've only had it in three weeks, though, and we've still got a lot to learn."

Installation of the HERN system was completed in cooperation with Pipp Community Hospital in Plainwell, though Pipp has yet to complete installation of its end of the system.

"We worked together in applying for the grant that pays for Pipp's equipment," Walker said. "If we hadn't agreed to buy and install the equipment ourselves, the hospital wouldn't have gotten the grant."

In Allegan, Allegan Ambulance and Allegan General Hospital are working toward the same goal, though Hospital Administrator Wendell Trent said approval of the grant is "overdue."

The equipment should be installed by mid-summer, according to Trent.

Walker said that before the HERN was installed, communication between an ambulance and the hospital was second-hand.

P.F.C. PRINTUP
. . . catches up on the war

March 22, 2001

County boasts uniform voting: Voting officials around Allegan County may be heard on occasion to utter the modest wish that all districts and states across the country employed as consistent practices in elections as here. Polling in Allegan County takes place with standard equipment almost across the board. Returns, even in major elections, come to the courthouse and are posted in a timely fashion.

In the wake of a national election rendered indecisive due to inconsistent voting methods from place to place across Florida, Allegan County elections clerk Marcia Augustyn hoped the trend would not continue. Chads and dimples aside, voting by mail becomes more prevalent and voting by Internet is in the offing. Augustyn struck a cautious note about the future of voting.

"I would hope that the new system, whatever it turns out to be, would move more toward consistent methods," she said.

Allegan County counts 40 precincts in its 24 townships and seven cities. Augustyn said all but one of these precincts use automatic ballot reading machines. Known as Accu-vote, these machines read and count with electronics the ballots voters feed into their maws, storing the ballots for future reference. The Allegan County clerk's office urged cities and townships to adopt the use of the Accu-vote system in the mid 1990s.

March 25, 2021

Allegan girls win bowling regional, advance to state finals: The Allegan girls' bowling team entered its Division 2 regional at Continental Lanes on Saturday, March 20, unbeaten for the season.

The Tigers left regionals with that unblemished record still intact.

Posting a four-game total of 3,471, Allegan finished more than 200 pins ahead of its closest competitor to take top honors in the 13-team field and qualify for the state finals.

Byron Center claimed the second state-qualifying slot with a total of 3,253, while Wayland finished 23 pins away from qualifying by placing third at 3,230.

Plainwell was fourth at 3,164 and Otsego was sixth at 3,107.

"It was exciting for us as coaches to watch a rare event happen for such a great group of young ladies," said Don Lamb, who coaches the Allegan bowling teams along with his wife Tonia. "They have made us so proud.

"We might not be their parents, but they are our kids when we watch them."

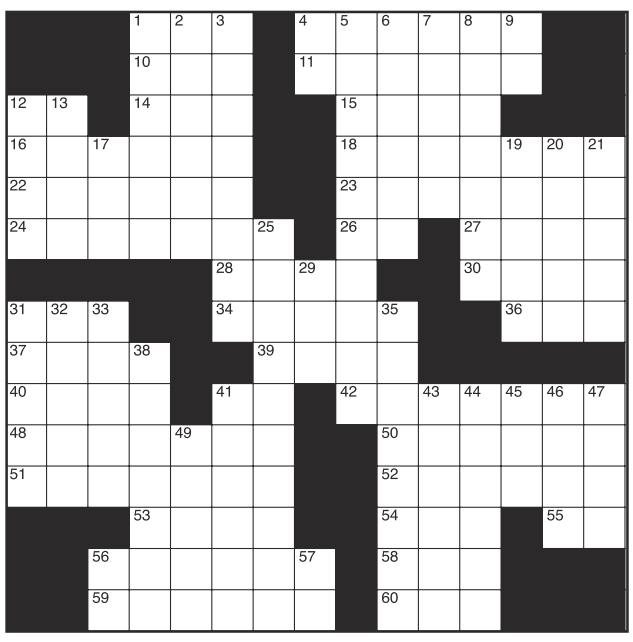
Despite what appeared to be a comfortable margin of victory, the Tigers trailed Byron Center by 13 pins (2,558-2,545) entering the fourth and final game.

But Allegan bested Byron Center 926-695 in game four to cruise to the regional title, breaking a school record for highest single-game score. That broke a record that had stood for one game, as Allegan posted a 921 in the third game to shatter the previous record of 880.

Leah Snyder paced Allegan in game four with a 201, while Savannah Belfuss was close behind at 200. Harleigh Wesche had her best game of the day at 180.

—Compiled by Jason Wesseldyk

Crossword



CLUES ACROSS
1. Inclined to do
4. Sketches
10. Book of Chronicles (abbr.)
11. Atomic #58
12. Dorm official
14. Small Eurasian deer
15. Southern constellation
16. Workers' groups
18. Former
22. Excellent
23. Romance language related to Spanish
24. Reference
26. Equally
27. Dirty towels
28. A cargo (abbr.)
30. Ammunition
31. You get one in summer
34. Slang for trucks with trailers
36. Swiss river
37. Exchange rate
39. British School
40. College teacher
41. Foreign Service
42. Horse gear
48. Cost to fly
50. A salt or ester of boric acid
51. Mocking
52. One who bird-watches
53. Concluding passage
54. A major division of geological time
55. Sodium
56. A way to produce
58. Soak
59. Laughed loudly and harshly
60. Affirmative

CLUES DOWN
1. Moth species phalonidia __
2. Quantum of energy
3. Break the law
4. Location of White House
5. Official cancellation of a decision
6. Where rockers work
7. Cut of beef: __ mignon
8. Nocturnal burrowing reptile
9. Atomic #62
12. Genus of evergreen subshrubs
13. Flowering plant of the legume family
17. Inches per minute (abbr.)
19. Tropical fruit
20. Hot fluid beneath the earth's crust
21. James __, painter
25. Popular dessert
29. Payment (abbr.)
31. Cuisine style
32. Genus of true flies
33. City in western France
35. Arrogance
38. One holding a position of command
41. Weekday
43. An evening party
44. Print errors
45. Not good
46. Egyptian Sun god
47. East German town
49. Olfactory property
56. Atomic #37
57. 'Pollock' actor Harris

■ see **Solution**, Page B12

Deaths

Feb. 12, 2026
PATRICIA JUNE BENTLEY, 86, Holland

Feb. 14, 2026
YVONNE CHARLOTTE HITTS, 73, Allegan Twp.

Feb. 23, 2026
TONYA LYNN TUCKER, 53, Allegan

Feb 24, 2026
BONNIE JEAN DOUBBLESTEIN, 74, Otsego
LAWRENCE HENRY RIEBELING, 77, Otsego Twp.

Feb. 28, 2026
RICHARD KLIFMAN, 67, Lee Twp.

March 1, 2026
SHIRLYN KAY RUSSELL, 84, Holland
CHRISTINE MAE GILES, 83, Ganges Twp.
DENNIS JAY SABIN, 73, Trowbridge Twp.

March 2, 2026
SHERRI MCIHELE SHARP, 61, Leighton Twp.
ROGER OTTO SCHROCK, 91, Manlius Twp.

March 3, 2026
RONALD STUART SPOORS, 76, Salem Twp.
PATRICIA ELIZABETH KLOOZ, 75, Saugatuck Twp.

March 4, 2026
VERNITA THELMA WEESAW, 82, Otsego Twp.

March 5, 2026
CAROLYN JEAN ETTERBEEK, 85, Douglas

March 6, 2026
MAX LEROY SHOOK, 76, Martin Twp.

March 9, 2026
THOMAS DUANE MANNING, 72, Otsego Twp.

Marriages

The following people applied for a marriage license between March 3 and march 11:

JACOB DYLAN WEDGE, Allegan, and **TAYLOR THERESA GREEN**, Allegan

MACKENZIE LYNN HANS, Fennville, and **DANIEL JAMES NOONAN**, Fennville

SEITH BRYAN ALBIN-NASH, Fennville, and **SAMANTHA LEIGH VASQUEZ**, Fennville

KELLY BRIAN GREEN, Grand Junction, and **BETH ANNE BARRETT**, Plainwell

LUKE ANDREW MARKLE, Plainwell, and **ALEXIS ROSE SCHMITT**, Gobles

ALAN JAMES ROGERS, Gobles, and **EDEN MARRIELLE COOKE**, Three Rivers

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					9	5		
				4				
		7			3		2	5
	5	4	6					3
	3		7		8	6		
	1		2				8	
8	7	2						
3	9				7			

(See Solution Page B12)

2026 Bracket Busters

MEN'S 2026 DIVISION I
BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

brackets.usatoday.com

East

FIRST ROUND (March 19, 20)	
1 Duke	(32-2)
16 Siena	(23-11)
8 Ohio St	(21-12)
9 TCU	(22-11)
5 St. John's	(28-6)
12 Northern Iowa	(23-12)
4 Kansas	(23-10)
13 Cal Baptist	(25-8)
6 Louisville	(23-10)
11 South Florida	(25-8)
3 Michigan St	(25-7)
14 N.D. State	(27-7)
7 UCLA	(23-11)
10 Central Florida	(21-11)
2 Connecticut	(29-5)
15 Furman	(22-12)

South

FIRST ROUND (March 19, 20)	
1 Florida	(26-7)
16 PV/LEHI	
8 Clemson	(24-10)
9 Iowa	(21-12)
5 Vanderbilt	(26-8)
12 McNeese St.	(28-5)
4 Nebraska	(26-6)
13 Troy	(22-11)
6 N. Carolina	(24-8)
11 VCU	(27-7)
3 Illinois	(24-8)
14 Pennsylvania	(18-11)
7 St. Mary's	(27-5)
10 Texas A&M	(21-11)
2 Houston	(28-6)
15 Idaho	(21-14)

West

FIRST ROUND (March 19, 20)	
1 Arizona	(32-2)
16 LIU Brooklyn	(24-10)
8 Villanova	(24-8)
9 Utah St.	(28-6)
5 Wisconsin	(24-10)
12 High Point	(30-4)
4 Arkansas	(26-8)
13 Hawaii	(24-8)
6 BYU	(23-11)
11 TEX/NCST	
3 Gonzaga	(30-3)
14 Kennesaw St.	(21-13)
7 Miami-Florida	(25-8)
10 Missouri	(20-12)
2 Purdue	(27-8)
15 Queens	(21-13)

Midwest

FIRST ROUND (March 19, 20)	
1 Michigan	(31-3)
16 UMBC/HOW	
8 Georgia	(22-10)
9 Saint Louis	(28-5)
5 Texas Tech	(22-10)
12 Akron	(29-5)
4 Alabama	(23-9)
13 Hofstra	(24-10)
6 Tennessee	(22-11)
11 MUO/SMU	
3 Virginia	(29-5)
14 Wright St.	(23-11)
7 Kentucky	(21-13)
10 Santa Clara	(26-8)
2 Iowa St.	(27-7)
15 Tenn. State	(23-9)

SECOND ROUND March 21, 22 · SWEET 16 March 26, 27 · ELITE 8 March 28, 29

FINAL 4 April 4, Indianapolis

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP April 6, Indianapolis

NATIONAL CHAMPION

FIRST FOUR
March 17, 18

11 TEX (18-14)	16 UMBC (24-8)	11 MUO (31-1)	16 PV (18-17)
11 NCST (20-13)	16 HOW (23-10)	11 SMU (20-13)	16 LEHI (18-16)
West	Midwest	Midwest	South

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APR 5 SUNDAY / 11:30AM - 1PM EASTER BRUNCH BUFFET — The Silo – Reservations Required Breakfast & Dinner Items, non-alcoholic drinks included. Full Bar available
MAY 8 FRIDAY / 6PM-8:30PM SPRING WINE TASTING — The Silo – Join us for a fun evening sampling wines from around the world. Beer samples from Tantrick Brewing and our incredible hors d'oeuvres buffet included in ticket price.
MAY 16 SATURDAY / 8PM-11PM SILO AFTER DARK — The Bronk Bros at The Silo Join us for a good ol' fashioned country night! Dust off your boots, grab your cowboy hat, and get ready to have some fun. Pizzas, bar snacks, and a full bar will be available for purchase. Yeehaw!

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Public Notices

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under Section 3212 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 A.M., on April 16, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Andy Ai, a married man, sole owner, ("Mortgagor"), gave a mortgage to Consumers Credit Union, ("Mortgagee"), dated October 30, 2020, and recorded on November 4, 2020, in Liber 4533, on Page 545, Allegan County Records, Michigan. On the date of this notice, there is claimed to be due the principal of One Hundred Forty-Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars and 03/100 Dollars ($149,900.03) plus accrued interest at 2.875% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at the place of holding in the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan @ 9:00 A.M. on Thursday, April 16, 2026. Said premises are situated in the Township of Clyde, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: The South 208.75 feet of the West 208.75 feet of the Southeast ¼ of the Southwest ¼ of Section 14, Town 2 North, Range 15 West. Commonly: 5159 118th Ave., Fennville, MI 49408—Tax Id #04-014-014-00 The redemption period shall be six months from the date of such sale unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, under Section 600.3278 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, the Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Dated: February 26, 2026 Consumers Credit Union, Mortgagee Holzman Law, PLLC By: Charles J. Holzman Attorney for Mortgagee 28366 Franklin Road Southfield, Michigan 48034 (248)352-4340

(02-26)(03-26)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on April 2, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Kendra Snyder and Kevin Snyder, wife and husband as joint tenants

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Nexus Nova LLC

Date of Mortgage: September 20, 2021

Date of Mortgage Recording: October 4, 2021

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $116,010.95

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in City of Allegan, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Lots 20 and 21 EX W 180 ft of Lot 21 also S 1/2 Lots 24 and 25 EX E 200 ft of Lots 20 and 24 Lowe's 2nd Divisional Map.

Common street address (if any): 621 Grand St, Allegan, MI 49010-9060

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: March 5, 2026
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1586137
(03-05)(03-26)

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 09:00 AM, on April 16, 2026. The amount due on the Mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a Mortgage made by Jacob P. Fitts to Fifth Third Mortgage - MI, LLC dated October 20, 2016 and recorded October 28, 2016 in Liber 4081 at Page 376, Allegan County, Michigan. Said Mortgage is now held by Fifth Third Bank National Association by assignment and/or merger. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of $13,283.80. Said premises are located in Allegan County, Michigan and are described as: For APN/Parcel ID(s): 03-51-270-006-00 Land Situated in the State of Michigan, County of Allegan, City of Allegan Lot 6, 7 and 8 in Railroad Addition to the Village (now City) of Allegan, according to the plat thereof recorded in Liber 3 of plats, Page 21, Allegan County Records Said property is commonly known as 138 Ida St, Allegan, MI 49010. The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Please be advised that any third party purchaser is responsible for preparing and recording the Sheriff's Deed. If this is a residential Mortgage, the following shall apply: ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the Mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. IF YOU: ARE A DEBTOR IN AN ACTIVE BANKRUPTCY CASE; ARE UNDER THE PROTECTION OF A BANKRUPTCY STAY; OR, HAVE RECEIVED A DISCHARGE IN BANKRUPTCY AND YOU HAVE NOT REAFFIRMED THE DEBT, THIS NOTICE IS FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT FROM YOU PERSONALLY. Dated: February 24, 2026 Attorney for the party foreclosing the Mortgage: Thomas E. McDonald (P39312) Brock & Scott, PLLC 5431 Oleander Drive Wilmington, NC 28403 PHONE: (844) 856-6646 File No. 26-01439

(02-26)(03-19)

SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - ALLEGAN COUNTY Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on April 02, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Randy K. Kling, a single man Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender`s successors and assigns Date of mortgage: November 16, 2017 Recorded on November 27, 2017, Liber 4198, on Page 942, Foreclosing

NOTICE

Cheshire Township is seeking a qualified and dedicated professional to serve as Supervisor until the November General Election due to an upcoming vacancy. The ideal candidate will bring a commitment to public service.

The Supervisor is responsible for a wide range of tasks requiring accuracy, confidentiality, and discretion. Statutory Duties may include:

- Moderates board and annual meetings
- Secretary to board of review
- Township's legal agent
- Must maintain records of supervisor's office
- May call special meetings

Applicants must be legal voters of Cheshire Township and have been a resident of the township for at least one year. They must also run in the August 2026 election.

We are looking for a proactive, detail-oriented professional who values meaningful community engagement. If you are passionate about serving the residents of Cheshire Township, we encourage you to apply!

Please submit your resume to cheshireclerk@yahoo.com.
Resumes must be received by March 26, 2026.

CHESHIRE TOWNSHIP

ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

2026-2030 EAGLE LAKE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2026-2030 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL AT MARCH 26, 2026 RESCHEDULED REGULAR MEETING (RESCHEDULED FROM MARCH 17, 2026)

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE EAGLE LAKE IMPROVEMENT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT ENCOMPASSING ALL LANDS ABUTTING EAGLE LAKE OR HAVING DEEDED ACESS TO EAGLE LAKE IN CHESHIRE TOWNSHIP, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN; AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE the Supervisor/Assessing Officer of Cheshire Township has reported to the Township Board and filed in the office of the Township Clerk for public examination a proposed 2026-2030 special assessment roll/special assessment column in the regular tax roll pertaining to the Eagle Lake Improvement Special Assessment District prepared pursuant to the Resolution Approving Plans and Cost Estimates for 2026-2030 Improvement Project adopted by the Township Board at the February 17, 2026 meeting following the public hearing held at that meeting on the proposed plans and costs.

The proposed special assessment roll prepared pursuant to the February 17, 2026 Township Board Resolution proposes to allocate the costs of an aquatic vegetation control project for 2026-2030 in the approximate total amount of $96,793 over the five-year project to the various lots and parcels within the Special Assessment District pursuant to a benefit factor of 1.0 for each lot/parcel abutting Eagle Lake, and a benefit factor of 0.5 for each lot/parcel with deeded access to Eagle Lake. The proposed costs for the project include a 5% contingency and administrative and legal expenses incurred by the Township in connection with the special assessment process.

A public hearing on any objections to the proposed 2026-2030 special assessment roll as prepared by the Assessor pursuant to Township Board direction in the Resolution adopted at the February 17, 2026 meeting, and as may be revised by the Township Board as discussed below, will be held at the Cheshire Township Hall at 471 41st Street, just north of 104th Avenue in Cheshire Township, Michigan, on **March 26, 2026,** in conjunction with a rescheduled regular meeting of the Township Board (rescheduled from March 17) beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Subsequent to the February 17, 2026 Township Board meeting the Township Clerk and Township Attorney conducted a detailed review of the status of the Eagle Lake SAD accounting fund, in anticipation of closing-out the accounting for the 2021-2025 project after collecting the special assessment revenues for the last year of that project, and determined that by mid-year 2026 that accounting fund will have an accumulated net surplus of approximately $41,750 from the 2021-2025 project and all prior 5-year Eagle Lake improvement projects going back to 2006. The Township Board may choose to apply this entire anticipated accumulated surplus towards the costs and expenses of the 2026-2030 improvement project and therefore reduce the new revenue necessary to cover the above-estimated costs/expenses of the 2026-2030 project from approximately $96,793 to approximately $55,043.

The Township Board will therefore consider at the March 26, 2026 meeting the proposed 5-year special assessment roll for the 2026-2030 project prepared by the Assessor in response to the direction of the Township Board in the Resolution adopted at the February 17, 2026 meeting, and will also consider at the March 26, 2026 meeting revising that proposed special assessment roll so as to levy no special assessments for the last two years of the 5-year special assessment roll for the 2026-2030 project.

If the Township Board approves the original proposed special assessment roll prepared by the Assessor pursuant to the Board direction in the Resolution adopted at the February 17, 2026 meeting, the resulting total amount of approximately $96,793 will be specially assessed against each lot/parcel of land within the Eagle Lake Improvement Special Assessment District as follows:

- $1,290.58 for each lot/parcel abutting Eagle Lake in Cheshire Township (with all contiguous lots/parcels in the same ownership specially assessed as one benefit unit), levied and payable in five equal annual installments of $258.12 in each of years 2026-2030.

- $645.29 for each lot/parcel with deeded access to Eagle Lake in Cheshire Township (with all contiguous lots/parcels in the same ownership specially assessed as one benefit unit), levied and payable in five equal annual installments of $129.06 in each of years 2026-2030.

If the Township Board approves a revised proposed special assessment roll as indicated above, the resulting total amount of approximately $55,043 will be specially assessed against each lot/parcel of land within the Eagle Lake Improvement Special Assessment District as follows:

- $733.91 for each lot/parcel abutting Eagle Lake in Cheshire Township (with all contiguous lots/parcels in the same ownership specially assessed as one benefit unit), levied and payable in three equal annual installments of $244.63 in each of years 2026-2028; and a special assessment of $0.00 on each such lot/parcel in both of years 2029 and 2030.

- $366.95 for each lot/parcel with deeded access to Eagle Lake in Cheshire Township (with all contiguous lots/parcels in the same ownership specially assessed as one-half benefit unit), levied and payable in three equal annual installments of $122.32 in each of years 2026-2028; and a special assessment of $0.00 on each such lot/parcel in both of years 2029 and 2030.

If the Township Board approves a 2026-2030 special assessment roll at the March 26, 2026 meeting, whether as originally prepared, or as revised, the annual special assessments are subject to a redetermination by the Township Board on a yearly basis as may be necessary to account for the actual incurred costs and any relevant legal/administrative expenses, as compared to the estimated costs and expenses (and, if applicable, to account for the actual surplus from the improvement projects in prior years, as compared to the presently anticipated surplus). Unpaid special assessments will be subject to interest at a rate to be determined by the Township Board but not exceeding 8.0% per annum.

The proposed 2026-2030 special assessment roll, and the project plans, estimate of costs, the boundaries of the Eagle Lake Improvement Special Assessment District, and the Resolution of the Township Board adopted at the February 17, 2026 meeting directing the Supervisor/Assessing Officer of the Township to make the proposed Special Assessment Roll, may be examined at the office of the Township Clerk and may further be examined at the public hearing.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT APPEARANCE AND PROTEST AT THIS HEARING IS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO APPEAL THE AMOUNT OF A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT TO THE STATE TAX TRIBUNAL. AN OWNER OR PARTY IN INTEREST OR HIS OR HER AGENT MAY APPEAR IN PERSON AT THIS HEARING TO PROTEST A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT, OR MAY FILE AN APPEARANCE OR PROTEST BY LETTER WITH THE TOWNSHIP CLERK BEFORE THE CLOSE OF THE HEARING OR WITHIN SUCH FURTHER TIME AS THE TOWNSHIP BOARD MAY GRANT, IF ANY, AND IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES A PERSONAL APPEARANCE AT THE HEARING SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED. THE OWNER OR ANY PERSON HAVING AN INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPERTY WHO PROTESTS IN PERSON OR IN WRITING AS PROVIDED ABOVE MAY FILE A WRITTEN APPEAL OF A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT WITH THE STATE TAX TRIBUNAL WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE CONFIRMATION OF THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT LEVY OR WITHIN SUCH OTHER TIME AS MAY BE ALLOWED BY LAW.

The foregoing hearings and all proceedings associated with these special assessment matters will be conducted in accordance with and pursuant to 1954 PA 188, as amended, the Michigan Open Meetings Act, and any other applicable law.

Cheshire Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services at the meeting/hearing to individuals with disabilities, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered, upon reasonable notice to the Township. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Township Clerk as designated below.

Jodi Pinnell, Clerk
Cheshire Township
1061 37th Street
Allegan, MI 49010
(269) 521-3440

Public Notices

Assignee (if any): Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc. Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Sixty-Seven Thousand Seven Hundred Eighteen and 61/100 Dollars ($167,718.61) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Allegan County, and described as: COMMENCING AT THE EAST 1/4 POST OF SECTION 31, TOWN 2 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 33 MINUTES 53 SECONDS WEST ON THE EAST AND WEST 1/4 LINE 1775.06 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING OF THIS DESCRIPTION; THENCE CONTINUING NORTH 89 DEGREES 33 MINUTES 53 SECONDS WEST 289 FEET; THENCE NORTH 0 DEGREES 3 MINUTES 57 SECONDS EAST, PARALLEL TO THE EAST LINE OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SAID SECTION, 630 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 33 MINUTES 53 SECONDS EAST 289 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 0 DEGREES 3 MINUTES 57 SECONDS WEST 630 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING; EXCEPTING THE WEST 50 FEET OF THE SOUTH 150 FEET OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PARCEL. ALSO THE EAST 170 FEET OF: COMMENCING ON THE EAST AND WEST 1/4 LINE, 350 FEET EAST OF THE CENTER OF SECTION 31, TOWN 2 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, THE PLACE OF BEGINNING; THENCE EAST ON THE 1/4 LINE 420 FEET; THENCE SOUTH TO LITTLEJOHN LAKE; THENCE WESTERLY AND SOUTHWESTERLY ALONG LITTLEJOHN LAKE TO A POINT 350 FEET EAST OF THE NORTH AND SOUTH 1/4 LINE; THENCE NORTH TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. EXCEPT ANY PORTION OF ABOVE DESCRIBED LEGAL THAT LIES WITHIN LOT 1 OF JAY MARSHALL`S LITTLEJOHN LAKE SUBDIVISION, RECORDED IN LIBER 7 OF PLATS, PAGE 8. Commonly known as 3459 113th Ave, Allegan, MI 49010 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc. Mortgagee/Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400

1586149

(02-26)(03-19)

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE SALE Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Rayheim R. Robinson, single man, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Hancock Mortgage Partners, LLC dated September 29, 2022 and recorded September 30, 2022 in Instrument Number 2022008529 St. Joseph County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Planet Home Lending, LLC by assignment. In pursuance and by virtue of a Judgment of Foreclosure of Mortgage and Declaratory Relief entered for Plaintiff, Planet Home Lending, LLC against Defendant, Rayheim R. Robinson in Case No. 25-375-CH of St. Joseph County Circuit Court, the below premises shall be foreclosed and sold by public auction. Said Judgment of Foreclosure of Mortgage and Declaratory Relief was entered on the 16th day of January, 2026, wherein there is claimed to be due on said date the sum of One Hundred Seventy-One Thousand Three Hundred Forty-Nine Dollars and Seventy Cents ($171,349.70), plus sums advanced for taxes, insurance and other fees incurred and allowed by said mortgage. Under the Judgment of Foreclosure of Mortgage and Declaratory Relief and related statutes, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by sale of the mortgage premises pursuant to the Judgment of Foreclosure of Mortgage and Declaratory Relief and that the sale shall be at public auction to the highest bidder, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within St. Joseph County, on the 30th day of April, 2026 at 10:00 AM, Eastern Standard Time, the following described property, viz: All certain piece or parcel of land situated in the Village of White Pigeon, County of St. Joseph and State of Michigan, described as follows: PARCEL 1: THAT PART OF THE WEST 1/2 OF THE EAST 1/2 OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 1, TOWNSHIP 8 SOUTH, RANGE 12 WEST, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING ON THE NORTHERLY SIDE OF CHICAGO STREET 10 FEET WESTERLY OF THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 34 OF THE VILLAGE OF WHITE PIGEON, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT OF RECORD IN THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTER OF DEEDS FOR ST. JOSEPH COUNTY, MICHIGAN, IN LIBER A OF DEEDS, PAGE 16; THENCE WESTERLY ON THE NORTHERLY LINE OF CHICAGO STREET 96.4 FEET; THENCE NORTH 160 FEET; THENCE NORTH 86° EAST TO A POINT 10 FEET, ON SAID LINE, FROM THE WESTERLY LINE OF LOT 33 OF SAID PLAT; THENCE SOUTH 04° EAST 159.55 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. TAX ID# 75-045-777-007-01 PARCEL 2: LOT 33 OF THE VILLAGE OF WHITE PIGEON, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT OF RECORD IN THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTER OF DEEDS FOR ST. JOSEPH COUNTY, MICHIGAN, IN LIBER A OF DEEDS, PAGES 15 AND 16. ASLO, COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHWESTERLY CORNER OF SAID LOT 33, THENCE WESTERLY ON THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 33 EXTENDED, 10 FEET; THENCE NORTHERLY, PARALLEL WITH THE WESTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 33 TO NORTHERLY LINE OF LOT 33 EXTENDED; THENCE EASTERLY TO NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 33; THENCE SOUTHERLY ON WESTERLY LINE OF LOT 33 TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. BEING DESCRIBED ON THE COUNTY TAX ROLL AS: LOT 33, ALSO STRIP 10 WIDE ADJOINING LOT 33 ON WEST SIDE, ORIGINAL PLAT OF THE VILLAGE OF WHITE PIGEON. TAX ID # 75-045-200-037-00 Commonly Known As: 300 W Chicago Road, White Pigeon, MI, 49099 and 207 N Melody Street, White Pigeon, Michigan 49099 Tax ID: 75 045 777 007 01 and 75 045 200 037 00 This property may be redeemed during the six (6) months following the sale. Dated: February 27, 2026 Orlans Law Group PLLC /s/Sogol I. Plagany Attorneys for Plaintiff Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084 Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400 File No. 25-006493

(03-06)(04-10)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on April 2, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Kendra Snyder and Kevin Snyder, wife and husband as joint tenants

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Nexus Nova LLC

Date of Mortgage: September 20, 2021

Date of Mortgage Recording: October 4, 2021

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $116,010.95

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in City of Allegan, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Lots 20 and 21 EX W 180 ft of Lot 21 also S 1/2 Lots 24 and 25 EX E 200 ft of Lots 20 and 24 Lowe's 2nd Divisional Map.

Common street address (if any): 621 Grand St, Allegan, MI 49010-9060

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: March 5, 2026

Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515

1586137

(03-05)(03-26)

STATE OF MICHIGAN

STATE OF MICHIGAN
JUDICIAL DISTRICT
48th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
Allegan COUNTY
SUMMONS
CASE NUMBER 26-71727-CH
Emily W. Jipp P-80894

Plaintiff's name, address, and telephone number

Lona Sliter and Fred Sliter

Plaintiff's attorney bar number, address, and telephone number

Michael J. Becker; Orton Tooman PC P81132
314 Trowbridge St.
Allegan, MI 49010
269-673-2136

v

Defendant's name, address, and telephone number

PATRICIA CARPENTER; and LEON CARPENTER, each of his unknown Heirs, Devisees and Assigns
5221 Carolina St.
Merrillville, IN 46410

Civil Case

There is no other pending or resolved civil action arising out of the same transaction or occurrence as alleged in the complaint.

SUMMONS

NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT: In the name of the people of the State of Michigan you are notified:

1. You are being sued.

2. YOU HAVE 21 DAYS after receiving this summons and a copy of the complaint to file a written answer with the court and serve a copy on the other party or take other lawful action with the court (28 days if you were served by mail or you were served outside of Michigan).

THE TOWNSHIP OF WATSON

1895 118th Ave. Allegan MI 49010

The township is accepting mowing bids for the2026 season. The bid will include mowing, trimming and trash removal for all properties,, Hicks cemetery located on 117th Ave. and 14th St., Miner Cemetery located at 1700 20th St, the hall/fire barn located at 1895 118th Ave., Seven Generations park on M-222 mowing road to parking lot, trim fencing and around both signposts and pavilion cement. The property to the east-mowing road to crest of hill only.

Bids will be accepted until March 31. 2026, mail or email the clerk@watsontownshipmi.gov

CITY OF ALLEGAN

Allegan County, Michigan
RESOLUTION NO. 26.09
RESOLUTION TO AMEND AND RATIFY RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE OF 2026 SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM FIRST LIEN REVENUE BONDS

WHEREAS, pursuant to Act 94, Public Acts of Michigan, 1933, as amended (the "Act") the City Council of the City of Allegan, Allegan County, Michigan (the "City") has adopted its Resolution 26.02, Resolution to Authorize Issuance of 2026 Sanitary Sewer System First Lien Revenue Bonds on January 26, 2026 ("Resolution 26.02"); and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend Resolution 26.02.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. AMENDMENT TO SECTION 9. Section 9, titled "SALE OF BONDS," of Resolution 26.02 is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

Section 9. SALE OF BONDS. The Authorized Officer is authorized to negotiate the sale of the Series 2026 Bonds to Huntington Securities, Inc., dba Huntington Capital Markets (the "Underwriter") or such other purchaser selected by the Authorized Officer and to approve and enter into a bond purchase agreement with the Underwriter or such other purchaser selected by the Authorized Officer (the "Bond Purchase Agreement"). The City Council determines that a negotiated sale is in the best interest of the City because a negotiated sale will provide the City with the most cost effective and efficient method to sell the Series 2026 Bonds and provides the City with maximum flexibility in pricing the Series 2026 Bonds and responding to market conditions.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the Authorized Officer determines that a competitive sale would be in the best interests of the City, the Series 2026 Bonds shall be sold at a competitive sale. The Authorized Officer shall set the date and time for sale of the Series 2026 Bonds, which date shall be at least seven (7) days after the publication of the official notice of sale. The Authorized Officer of the City shall cause notice of the sale of the Series 2026 Bonds to be published in The Bond Buyer, which notice shall be in such form as is approved by the Authorized Officer. Following the receipt of such bids, the Authorized Officer is authorized to award the Series 2026 Bonds to the successful bidder therefor or reject all bids and negotiate the sale of the Bonds with a selected Purchaser.

Section 2. AMENDMENT TO SECTION 15. Section 15, titled "AUTHORIZED OFFICER," of Resolution 26.02 is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

Section 15. AUTHORIZED OFFICER. The Authorized Officer is designated and authorized, for and on behalf of the City, without further City Council approval, to do all acts and to take all necessary steps required to effectuate the sale, issuance, and delivery of the Series 2026 Bonds. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Resolution, the Authorized Officer is authorized within the limitations of this Resolution to determine the specific interest rate or rates to be borne by the Series 2026 Bonds, the maximum interest rate, amount of discount or premium, the principal amount, denominations, interest payment dates, dates of maturities, and amount of maturities, the amount of good faith deposit, if any, optional and mandatory redemption rights, term bond options, the title of the Series 2026 Bonds, date of issuance, and other terms and conditions relating to the Series 2026 Bonds and the sale thereof. The Authorized Officer shall have the authority to determine that up to two years of interest on the Series 2026 Bonds be capitalized. The Authorized Officer is further authorized to revise or adjust the provisions of Sections 12, 13 and 14 of this Resolution prior to the issuance of the Series 2026 Bonds. The authority granted to the Authorized Officer by this Section, is subject to the following limitations:

(a) The par amount of the Series 2026 Bonds shall not exceed $7,680,000.

(b) The Series 2026 Bonds shall not be sold at a price that would make the true interest cost of the Series 2026 Bonds exceed 7.00%.

(c) The final maturity date of the Series 2026 Bonds shall not be later than twenty-one (21) years after the date of issuance of the Series 2026 Bonds.

(d) The Series 2026 Bonds shall not be sold at a price that is less than 98% of the par value of the Series 2026 Bonds.

(e) The Underwriter's discount with respect to the Series 2026 Bonds shall not exceed 1.25% of the principal amount of the Series 2026 Bonds in addition to the original issue discount.

The Authorized Officer is hereby authorized for and on behalf of the City, without further City Council approval, to: (a) approve the circulation of a preliminary and a final Official Statement describing for the Series 2026 Bonds; (b) negotiate the sale of the Series 2026 Bonds and enter into a Bond Purchase Agreement or otherwise award the sale of the Series 2026 Bonds; (c) purchase municipal bond insurance, if considered necessary, as additional security for the bondholders; (d) apply to rating agencies for a rating on the Series 2026 Bonds; (e) make any elections or designations relating to the Series 2026 Bonds pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended; and (f) do all other acts and take all other necessary procedures required to effectuate the sale, issuance, and delivery of the Series 2026 Bonds.

Approval by the City of the matters delegated in this section or any other sections may be evidenced by execution or approval of an order or of such documents by the Authorized Officer. The Authorized Officer, or any one or more of them, are authorized to execute any documents or certificates necessary to complete the transaction, including, but not limited to, any applications including applications to the Michigan Department of Treasury (including an Application for State Treasurer's Approval to Issue Long-Term Securities, applications for waivers, and the submission of any supporting or related documents), any certificates, receipts, orders, agreements, instruments, security reports, a blanket letter of representations, and any certificates relating to federal or state securities laws, rules or regulations, and to pay any fees required by the State of Michigan. The Authorized Officer shall have the power to approve such policies as deemed necessary to comply with federal securities and tax laws, which shall be binding on the City.

Section 3. RATIFICATION. Except as provided above, the approval of Resolution 26.02 is hereby ratified and confirmed as amended by this Resolution.

Section 4. PUBLICATION AND RECORDATION. This Resolution shall be published once in full in a newspaper of general circulation in the City qualified under state law to publish legal notices, and the same shall be recorded in the records of the City and such recording authenticated by the signature of the City Clerk.

Section 5. EFFECTIVE DATE OF RESOLUTION: Pursuant to Section 6 of the Act, this Resolution shall be approved on the date of first reading and this Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its adoption.

YEAS: _____
NAYS: _____
ABSTAIN: _____
ABSENT: _____
RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

Traci Perrigo, Mayor
City of Allegan

Tracy J. Stull, Clerk
City of Allegan

CERTIFICATION

I, Tracy J. Stull, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the City of Allegan, Allegan County, Michigan do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council at a regular meeting held on March 9, 2026, and that notice of said meeting was given pursuant to Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended.

Public Notices

3. if you do not answer or take other action within the time allowed, judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

4. If you require accommodations to use the court because of a disability or if you require a foreign language interpreter to help you fully participate in court proceedings, please contact the court immediately to make arrangements.

Issue date: 02/24/25
Expiration date: 05/25/26

STATE OF MICHIGAN
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
COUNTY BUILDING,
ALLEGAN, MICHIGAN 49010
File no: 26-71727-CH
Hon. Emily W. Jipp P-80894
LONA SLITER and FRED SLITER
Plaintiffs
Vs
PATRICIA CARPENTER: and
LEON CARPENTER, each of his unknown Heirs, Devisees and Assigns,
Defendants
Michael J. Becker P81132
ORTON, TOOMAN, HALE,
McKOWN & KIEL, P.C.
Attorneys for Plaintiffs
314 Trowbridge St., PO Box 239
Allegan, MI 49010
(269) 673-2136

ORDER FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION

At a session of court held in the courthouse in Allegan County, Michigan, on 2/27/2026

Present: Honorable Emily W. Jipp, Circuit Court Judge

Plaintiffs filed a verified ex parte motion for service of process in the discretion of the court. After reading the verified motion, the court finds that Plaintiffs have shown that service of process cannot reasonably be made on Defendant Leon Carpenter, each of his unknown Heirs, Devisees and Assigns by the methods provided in MCR 2.105(A), in that Plaintiff has demonstrated diligent attempts to locate Defendant. The court further finds, pursuant to MCR 2.105(I), that service of process by publication is the best available method of service of process reasonably calculated to give Defendant actual notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard.

IT IS ORDERED that Plaintiffs must serve the Defendant Leon Carpenter, each of his unknown Heirs, Devisees, and Assigns by publication for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper located in Allegan County, Michigan.

Hon. Emily W. Jipp P-80894

3-12 3-26

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on April 16, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Thalious B. Green, a married man and Phyllis J. Green, a married woman as joint tenants with right of survivorship

Original Mortgagee: Lakeland Mortgage Corporation

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): PNC Bank, National Association, successor in interest to National City Real Estate Services, LLC, successor by merger to National City Mortgage, Inc., formerly known as National City Mortgage Co.

Date of Mortgage: February 8, 2003

Date of Mortgage Recording: March 28, 2003

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $170,854.35

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Manlius, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Part Of The Northeast 1/4 Of Section 33, Town 3 North, Range 15 West, Manlius Township, Allegan County, Michigan, Being Described As: Commencing At The South 1/4 Corner Of Said Section 33: Thence North 01 Degree 44 Minutes 03 Seconds East 2228.02 Feet Along The North And South 1/4 Line Of Said Section 33; Thence South 88 Degrees 15 Minutes 57 Seconds East 658.40 Feet: Thence North 01 Degree 58 Minutes 39 Seconds East 405.44 Feet: Thence North 35 Degrees 32 Minutes 09 Seconds East 3.22 Feet; Thence South 87 Degrees 55 Minutes 59 Seconds East 661.93 Feet Along The East And West 1/4 Line Of Said Section 33; Thence North 01 Degrees 30 Minutes 31 Seconds East 465.00 Feet Along The East Line Of The East 1/2 Of The Southwest 1/4 Of The Northeast 1/4 Of Said Section 33 To The Point Of Beginning Of The Parcel Of Land Herein Described; Thence North 87 Degrees 55 Minutes 59 Seconds West 389.56 Feet; Thence North 35 Degrees 32 Minutes 09 Seconds East 74.89 Feet; Thence Northeasterly 59.31 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Left With A Radius Of 100.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 33 Degrees 59 Minutes 02 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears North 18 Degrees 32 Minutes 38 Seconds East 58.45 Feet; Thence North 01 Degree 33 Minutes 07 Seconds East 79.72 Feet: Thence South 87 Degrees 49 Minutes 04 Seconds East 330.47 Feet; Thence South 01 Degree 30 Minutes 31 Seconds West 197.58 Feet Along Said East Line To The Point Of Beginning. Subject To Easements, Restrictions And Rights-Of-Way Of Record. Subject To And Together With An Easement For Ingress, Egress And Utilities Over Part Of The East 1/2 Of Section 33, Town 3 North, Range 15 West, Manlius Township, Allegan County, Michigan, Being Described As: Commencing At The South 1/4 Corner Of Said Section 33; Thence North 01 Degree 44 Minutes 03 Seconds East 2378.02 Feet Along The North And South 1/4 Line Of Said Section 33 To The Point Of The Parcel Of Land Herein Described; Thence Continuing Along Said Line North 01 Degree 44 Minutes 03 Seconds East 66.00 Feet; Thence South 88 Degrees 15 Minutes 57 Seconds East 418.10 Feet; Thence Northeasterly 65.72 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Left With A Radius Of 67.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 56 Degrees 11 Minutes 54 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears North 63 Degrees 38 Minutes 06 Seconds East 63.11 Feet; Thence North 35 Degrees 32 Minutes 09 Seconds East 850.09 Feet; Thence Northeasterly 39.74 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Left With A Radius Of 67.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 33 Degrees 59 Minutes 02 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears North 18 Degrees 32 Minutes 38 Seconds East 39.16 Feet; Thence North 01 Degree 33 Minutes 07 Seconds East 80.08 Feet; Thence Northwesterly 35.79 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Left With A Radius Of 50.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 41 Degrees 00 Minutes 52 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears North 18 Degrees 57 Minutes 18 Seconds West 35.03 Feet; Thence Clockwise 274.40 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Right With A Radius Of 60.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 262 Degrees 01 Minute 43 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears South 88 Degrees 28 Minutes 53 Seconds East 90.55 Feet; Thence Southwesterly 35.79 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Left With A Radius Of 50.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 41 Degrees 00 Minutes 52 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears South 22 Degrees 03 Minutes 33 Seconds West 35.03 Feet; Thence South 01 Degree 33 Minutes 07 Seconds West 80.08 Feet; Thence Southwesterly 78.89 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Right With A Radius Of 133.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 33 Degrees 59 Minutes 02 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears South 18 Degrees 32 Minutes 38 Seconds West 77.74 Feet; Thence South 35 Degrees 32 Minutes 09 Seconds West 850.09 Feet; Thence Southwesterly 130.45 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Right With A Radius Of 133.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 56 Degrees 11 Minutes 54 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears South 63 Degrees 38 Minutes 06 Seconds West 125.29 Feet; Thence North 88 Degrees 15 Minutes 57 Seconds West 418.10 Feet To The Point Of Beginning.

Common street address (if any): 5465 Dalton Rdg, Fennville, MI 49408-8447

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: March 12, 2026
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1587201
(03-12)(04-02)

TO ALL PERSONS, including: (specify non-custodial parent's name here, if applicable)

whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: Valarie Jean Lee has filed a petition for name change.

A name change hearing will be held on Tuesday, april 28, 2026 at 9:00 am at FAMILY COURT COURTROOM before Judge Hon. Jolene Clearwater P74848 , to change the name of:Valarie Jean Lee to Olubayo Elimisha

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STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. and JUDGE
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of Ryan Lee Whitney Date of Birth:*07/24/1981
TO ALL CREDITORS: **

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Ryan Lee Whitney, died 10/28/25.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Ivy Whitney , personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

3/11/26
Ivy Whitney
672 Melrose Street
Plainwell MI, 49080

TO ALL PERSONS, including: (specify non-custodial parent's name here, if applicable)

whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: Ryan Matthew Scott Witt has filed a petition for name change.

A name change hearing will be held on Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at 1:15 PM at FAMILY COURT COURTROOM before Judge Hon. Jolene Clearwater

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Allegan (City) operates an Industrial Pretreatment Program as required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. This program is intended to control the discharges from industrial users to the Allegan Wastewater Treatment Plant to prevent plant upset, pass through of pollutants to the Kalamazoo River, contamination of residual solids and for other reasons. In accordance with 40 CFR 403.8 (f) (2) (vii) the City is hereby listing those industrial users which had been in significant noncompliance with the applicable pretreatment requirements during the period of January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025. All companies listed are currently in compliance or on a compliance schedule to correct any deficiencies. The publication of these names is to satisfy the requirements of the above referenced regulation:

Perrigo Co.

CITY OF ALLEGAN

Allegan County, Michigan
RESOLUTION NO. 26.10
RESOLUTION TO AMEND AND RATIFY RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE OF 2026 WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM FIRST LIEN REVENUE BONDS

WHEREAS, pursuant to Act 94, Public Acts of Michigan, 1933, as amended (the "Act") the City Council of the City of Allegan, Allegan County, Michigan (the "City") has adopted its Resolution 26.03, Resolution to Authorize Issuance of 2026 Water Supply System First Lien Revenue Bonds on January 26, 2026 ("Resolution 26.03"); and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend Resolution 26.03.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

AMENDMENT TO SECTION 9. Section 9, titled "SALE OF BONDS," of Resolution 26.03 is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

Section 9. SALE OF BONDS. The Authorized Officer is authorized to negotiate the sale of the Series 2026 Bonds to Huntington Securities, Inc., dba Huntington Capital Markets (the "Underwriter") or such other purchaser selected by the Authorized Officer and to approve and enter into a bond purchase agreement with the Underwriter or such other purchaser selected by the Authorized Officer (the "Bond Purchase Agreement"). The City Council determines that a negotiated sale is in the best interest of the City because a negotiated sale will provide the City with the most cost effective and efficient method to sell the Series 2026 Bonds and provides the City with maximum flexibility in pricing the Series 2026 Bonds and responding to market conditions.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the Authorized Officer determines that a competitive sale would be in the best interests of the City, the Series 2026 Bonds shall be sold at a competitive sale. The Authorized Officer shall set the date and time for sale of the Series 2026 Bonds, which date shall be at least seven (7) days after the publication of the official notice of sale. The Authorized Officer of the City shall cause notice of the sale of the Series 2026 Bonds to be published in The Bond Buyer, which notice shall be in such form as is approved by the Authorized Officer. Following the receipt of such bids, the Authorized Officer is authorized to award the Series 2026 Bonds to the successful bidder therefor or reject all bids and negotiate the sale of the Bonds with a selected Purchaser.

Section 1. AMENDMENT TO SECTION 15. Section 15, titled "AUTHORIZED OFFICER," of Resolution 26.03 is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

Section 15. AUTHORIZED OFFICER. The Authorized Officer is designated and authorized, for and on behalf of the City, without further City Council approval, to do all acts and to take all necessary steps required to effectuate the sale, issuance, and delivery of the Series 2026 Bonds. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Resolution, the Authorized Officer is authorized within the limitations of this Resolution to determine the specific interest rate or rates to be borne by the Series 2026 Bonds, the maximum interest rate, amount of discount or premium, the principal amount, denominations, interest payment dates, dates of maturities, and amount of maturities, the amount of good faith deposit, if any, optional and mandatory redemption rights, term bond options, the title of the Series 2026 Bonds, date of issuance, and other terms and conditions relating to the Series 2026 Bonds and the sale thereof. The Authorized Officer shall have the authority to determine that up to two years of interest on the Series 2026 Bonds be capitalized. The Authorized Officer is further authorized to revise or adjust the provisions of Sections 12, 13 and 14 of this Resolution prior to the issuance of the Series 2026 Bonds. The authority granted to the Authorized Officer by this Section, is subject to the following limitations:

(a) The par amount of the Series 2026 Bonds shall not exceed $7,270,000.

(b) The Series 2026 Bonds shall not be sold at a price that would make the true interest cost of the Series 2026 Bonds exceed 7.00%.

(c) The final maturity date of the Series 2026 Bonds shall not be later than twenty-one (21) years after the date of issuance of the Series 2026 Bonds.

(d) The Series 2026 Bonds shall not be sold at a price that is less than 98% of the par value of the Series 2026 Bonds.

(e) The Underwriter's discount with respect to the Series 2026 Bonds shall not exceed 1.25% of the principal amount of the Series 2026 Bonds in addition to the original issue discount.

The Authorized Officer is hereby authorized for and on behalf of the City, without further City Council approval, to: (a) approve the circulation of a preliminary and a final Official Statement describing for the Series 2026 Bonds; (b) negotiate the sale of the Series 2026 Bonds and enter into a Bond Purchase Agreement or otherwise award the sale of the Series 2026 Bonds; (c) purchase municipal bond insurance, if considered necessary, as additional security for the bondholders; (d) apply to rating agencies for a rating on the Series 2026 Bonds; (e) make any elections or designations relating to the Series 2026 Bonds pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended; and (f) do all other acts and take all other necessary procedures required to effectuate the sale, issuance, and delivery of the Series 2026 Bonds.

Approval by the City of the matters delegated in this section or any other sections may be evidenced by execution or approval of an order or of such documents by the Authorized Officer. The Authorized Officer, or any one or more of them, are authorized to execute any documents or certificates necessary to complete the transaction, including, but not limited to, any applications including applications to the Michigan Department of Treasury (including an Application for State Treasurer's Approval to Issue Long-Term Securities, applications for waivers, and the submission of any supporting or related documents), any certificates, receipts, orders, agreements, instruments, security reports, a blanket letter of representations, and any certificates relating to federal or state securities laws, rules or regulations, and to pay any fees required by the State of Michigan. The Authorized Officer shall have the power to approve such policies as deemed necessary to comply with federal securities and tax laws, which shall be binding on the City.

Section 2. RATIFICATION. Except as provided above, the approval of Resolution 26.03 is hereby ratified and confirmed as amended by this Resolution.

Section 3. PUBLICATION AND RECORDATION. This Resolution shall be published once in full in a newspaper of general circulation in the City qualified under state law to publish legal notices, and the same shall be recorded in the records of the City and such recording authenticated by the signature of the City Clerk.

Section 4. EFFECTIVE DATE OF RESOLUTION: Pursuant to Section 6 of the Act, this Resolution shall be approved on the date of first reading and this Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its adoption.

YEAS: _____
NAYS: _____
ABSTAIN: _____
ABSENT: _____

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

Traci Perrigo, Mayor
City of Allegan

Tracy J. Stull, Clerk
City of Allegan

CERTIFICATION

I, Tracy J. Stull, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the City of Allegan, Allegan County, Michigan do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council at a regular meeting held on March 9, 2026, and that notice of said meeting was given pursuant to Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended.

Tracy J. Stull, Clerk
Dated: March 9, 2026
City of Allegan

Public Notices

P74848 , to change the name of: Ryan Matthew Scott Witt to Ryan Scott McHugh

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PUBLICATION OF NOTICE TO CREDITORS REVOCABLE TRUST

In the Matter of: The Michael C. Lyons and Constance J. Lyons Revocable Trust

TAKE NOTICE: The Michael C. Lyons and Constance J. Lyons Revocable Trust ("The Trust") was established on March 19, 1996. The Settlors, Michael C. Lyons and Constance J. Lyons lived at 6780 111th Ave, South Haven, Michigan 49090. Michael C. Lyons was born on September 14, 1939, and died on January 30, 2020. Constance J. Lyons was born on March 20, 1944, and died on February 10, 2026.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: Creditors of the Settlor, Michael C. Lyons and Constance J. Lyons, and/or "The Trust" are notified that all claims against The Michael C. Lyons and Constance J. Lyons Revocable Trust will be forever barred unless presented to: Thomas Lyons, Co-Successor Trustee, of, 6752 111th Ave., South Haven, MI 49090 or John Lyons, Co-Successor Trustee, of, Obstgartenweg 1A, 8427 Freienstein-Teufen, Switzerland within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Dated: 3/09/20
David F. Kiel (P43048)
ORTON, TOOMAN, HALE, McKOWN & KIEL, P.C.
314 Trowbridge St., P.O. Box 239
Allegan, MI 49010
(269) 673-2136

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. 22-63903-DA and JUDGE
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of Fredrick Rawson Sr., Deceased Date of Birth:*06-17-1938
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Fredrick Rawson Sr., died 09-01-2020.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to James Edward Rawson, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

3-13-2026
Christopher T. Antkoviak P59448
416 Hubbard Street
Allegan, MI 49010
(269)673-8468
James Edward Rawson
271 54th Street
Grand Junction, MI 49056
269-906-5441

STATE OF MICHIGAN
JUDICIAL DISTRICT
48th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
Allegan COUNTY
Case Number 26-71768-CH
Matthew Antkoviak P-5944
SUMMONS
Plaintiffs name, address, and telephone number
Mildred E. Whitcomb Revocable Trust
Plaintiff's attorney bar number, address, and telephone number
Michael J. Becker; Orton Tooman PC P81132
314 Trowbridge St.
Allegan, M1 49010
269-673-2136
v
Defendant's name, address, and telephone number
The Estate of Margaret Staal; and each of her unknown Heirs, Devisees and Assigns.
Civil Case

There is no other pending or resolved civil action arising out of the same transaction or occurrence as allegedin the complaint.

SUMMONS

NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT: In the name of the people of the State of Michigan you are notified:

1. You are being sued.

2. YOU HAVE 21 DAYS after receiving this summons and a copy of the complaint to file a written answer with the court and serve a copy on the other party or take other lawful action with the court (28 days if you were served by mail or you were served outside of Michigan).

3. If you do not answer or take other action within the time allowed, judgment may be entered against you for the relief. demanded in the complaint.

4, If you require accommodations to use the court because of a disability or if you require a foreign language interpreter to help you fully particaipate in court proceedings, please contact the court immediately to make arraingments.

Issue Date: 03/06/2026
Experation date: 06/04/2026

STATE OF MICHIGAN
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
COUNTY BUILDING,
ALLEGAN, MICHIGAN 49010
File No. 26-71768-CH
THE MILDRED E. WHITCOMB REVOCABLE TRUST,
Plaintiff
Vs
The ESTATE of MARGARET STAAL; and each of her unknown Heirs, Devisees and Assigns,
Defendant
Michael J. Becker P81132
ORTON, TOOMAN, HALE, McKOWN & KIEL, P.C.
Attorneys for Plaintiff
314 Trowbridge St., PO Box 239
Allegan, MI 49010
(269) 673-2136
ORDER FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION

At a session of court held in the courthouse in Allegan County, Michigan, on 3/10/2026

Present: Honorable Matthew Antkoviak P-59449, Circuit Court Judge

Plaintiff filed a verified ex parte motion for service of process in the discretion of the court. After reading the verified motion, the court finds that Plaintiff has shown that service of process cannot reasonably be made on Defendant by the methods provided in MCR 2.105(A), in that Plaintiff has demonstrated diligent attempts to locate Defendant. The court further finds, pursuant to MCR 2.105(1), that service of process by publication is the best available method of service of process reasonably calculated to give Defendant actual notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard.

IT IS ORDERED that Plaintiff must serve the Defendant by publication for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper located in Allegan County, Michigan.

Honorable Matthew Antkoviak P-59449
3-19 4-2

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Trust

In the Matter of Jack E. Fenton and Patricia A. Fenton Trust

Date of Birth Patricia A. Fenton — 11/7/1943

TO ALL CREDITORS: *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Patricia A. Fenton , died February 22, 2026, leaving the above Trust in full force and effect. Creditors of the decedent or against the Trust are notified that all claims against the decedent or trust will be forever barred unless presented to Tammy Quick and Kevin DeKoekkoek, Trustee, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

3/13/2026
Rhoades McKee PC
Stephanie S. Fekkes P43549
607 N. Broadway. Ste. A.
Hastings, MI 49058 (269) 945-1921
Tammy Quick and Kevin DeKoekkoek
c/o Rhoades McKee, 607 N. Broadway, Ste. A
Hastings, MI 49058 (269) 945-1921

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. 26-66116-DE and JUDGE HON. JOLENE A. CLEARWATER
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of Andrew Jon Smit, Deceased Date of Birth:*JUN 22, 1976
TO ALL CREDITORS: **

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Andrew Jon Smit, died JAN 13, 2026 .

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to STANTON RAY VANDERPOL, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

3/14/2026
STANTON RAY VANDERPOL
5092 140TH AVE
HOLLAND MI 40423
616-990-5860

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under Section 3212 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 A.M., on May 7, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Timothy L. Arndt Sr., ("Mortgagor"), gave a mortgage to Ignite Credit Union, successor by merger with Allegan Credit Union, fka Allegan Community Federal Credit Union., ("Mortgagee"), dated January 25, 2021, and recorded on May 31, 2023, in Liber 4860, on Page 25, Allegan County Records, Michigan. On the date of this notice, there is claimed to be due the principal of Forty-Six Thousand Six Hundred Six Dollars and 44/100 Dollars ($46,606.44) plus accrued interest at 5.99% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at the place of holding in the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan @ 9:00 A.M. on Thursday, May 7, 2026. Said premises are situated in the Township of Monterey, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: Part of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 2, Town 3 North, Range 13 West, described as: Commencing at the South 1/4 Corner of said Section; thence North 89 degrees, 24 minutes West 550.00 feet along the South line of said SW 1/4; thence North 00 degrees, 18 minutes 41 seconds East 718.53 feet to the place of beginning; thence North 89 degrees, 24 minutes 00 seconds West 397.05 feet; thence North 02 degrees, 41 minutes 54 seconds East 233.0 feet; thence North 39 degrees 18 minutes 08 seconds West 145.94 feet; thence North 03 degrees, 51 minutes 54 seconds East 334.78 feet; thence South 89 degrees, 24 minutes 00 seconds East 297.65 feet; thence South 00 degrees, 18 minutes 41 seconds West 521.57 feet; thence South 89 degrees 24 minutes 00 seconds East 162.00 feet; thence S 00 degrees, 18 minutes, 41 seconds West 157.47 feet to the place of beginning. Together with an easement for Ingress and egress and utility purposes over a 66 foot wide strip of land the centerline of which is described as: Commencing at the South 1/4 Corner of Section 2, Town 3 North, Range 13 West, thence North 89 degrees, 24 minutes West 977.0 feet along the South line of said Section to the place of beginning of the centerline of said easement; thence North 02 degrees, 41 minutes, 54 seconds East 952.0 feet; thence North 39 degrees, 18 minutes 06

SUMMARY

Otsego Township
March 9, 2026

The regular meeting of the Otsego Township Board was held on Monday, March 9, 2026, at the Otsego Township Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Supervisor Gudith.

Members Present: Gudith, Colin, Lunarde-Alexander, Moll, Burns, Bumgart, Rose.

Members Absent: None.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approved minutes from the February 9th regular meeting.

Approved bills in the amount of $124,962.67.

Approved Journal Entries 6879,6880 & 6881.

Approved the website ADA audit proposal from STG in the amount of $1495.

Approved paying public works employees out for holidays worked.

Adopted Resolution to reinstate hot daily home-delivered meal service and wellness checks for homebound senior citizens in Allegan County.

Approved to have GLC dust control applied to the northern half of the township, excluding 15th Street to 111th Avenue, and to have SWB dust control applied to the southern half of the township as well as 15th Street to 111th Avenue.

Approved paving 19th Street with the pavement to be 24' wide.

Approved insurance proposal from EMC Insurance Companies.

Approved audit proposal from Sigfried Crandall PC.

Tabled AVTEK proposal for additional time to review.

Approved water and sewer rate study proposal by Bendzinski & Co.

Appointed Brad Ade and Chris Jodon to the Planning Commission.

Appointed Tom Burns, Chet Vanderploeg, and Jeff Polonowski to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Adjourned the meeting at 9:13 P.M.

Submitted by:
Jen Colin, Otsego Township Clerk.

TOWNSHIP OF WATSON

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Watson Township Board will hold a public hearing on the proposed township budget for fiscal year 2026-27 at the Watson Township Hall on Tuesday March 31, 2026 at 7:00. A copy of the budget is available for public inspection at the Watson Township Hall and may be found at https://watsontownshipmi.gov/116

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

NOTICE

OF BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING
FOR ALLEGAN TOWNSHIP

The Allegan Township Board will hold a public hearing on the Proposed Budget for 2026- 2027 Fiscal Year at the Allegan Township Hall at 3037 118th Avenue, Allegan, Michigan, on Thursday, March 26, 2026 at 6:00 P.M.

Copies of the proposed budget Annual Budget are available to the public by contacting Michelle Waite, Clerk.

This notice is posted in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act), MCLA 41.72a (2) (3).

NOTICE

Gobles Public Schools Food Service is Requesting a Request for Proposal for equipment to redo their serving lines for the food service program in our High/Middle and Elementary School, and new convection ovens in our kitchen. Bid packets with specifications can be picked up at the Gobles Elementary School Office at 409 North State Street, Gobles, MI 49055. There will be a pre-bid walkthrough on Thursday March 26, 2026 at 10am we will meet at the entrance to the Elementary Building. Due to installation, removal of items, and electrical work, bidding parties must attend the walkthrough to get the needed information to make a proper bid on this project. Bids will be due by 9am on April 13, 2026. Bids will be opened at 9:30am on April 13, 2026 at Gobles Elementary Office. Any questions regarding the RFP should be directed too. Gobles Public Schools will be closed for Spring Break from March 27 – April 5.

Eric Meloche
Gobles Public Schools
Director of Support and Nutritional Services
409 North State Street
Gobles, MI 49055
269-628-9386

NOTICE

OF PUBLIC HEARING
WAYLAND TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
1060 129th Avenue
Bradley, MI 49311
269-792-6394

NOTE: Location of meeting has been changed Ss. Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to PA 110 of 2006, the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, the Planning Commission of Wayland Township will hold a Public Hearing to deliberate the following topics on Wednesday, April 8, 2026 at 6:30 p.m., at the Ss. Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church located at 159 131st Avenue, Wayland, MI 49348.

1.An application from Blazing Star Solar, LLC, interested party, for special use permit and related site plan review to establish a 125-megawatt nameplate capacity solar energy collection facility, otherwise known as a "Solar Farm", and related substation and generation interconnect line within the A Agricultural District, in accordance with the requirements of Section 3.49 Solar Energy Systems (SES) of the Wayland Township Zoning Ordinance. All properties involved in the above request are as follows:

a. PPN 03-24-013-005-00, 131st Avenue (unaddressed)
b. PPN 03-24-014-017-00, 2nd Street (unaddressed)
c. PPN 03-24-023-001-00, 2nd Street (unaddressed)
d. PPN 03-24-013-011-00, Patterson Rd (unaddressed)
e. PPN 03-24-012-004-20, 2939 2nd Street
f. PPN 03-24-012-002-00, 133rd Avenue (unaddressed)
g. PPN 03-24-012-003-10, 80 133rd Avenue
h. PPN 03-24-013-004-00, 131st Avenue (unaddressed)
i. PPN 03-24-024-001-00, 19 129th Avenue
j. PPN 03-24-024-003-00, 130th Avenue (unaddressed)
k. PPN 03-24-013-001-60, 69 Skyview Way
l. PPN 03-24-013-009-20, 108 131st Avenue
m. PPN 03-24-013-009-30, 131st Avenue (unaddressed)

2. Any other business that comes properly before the Planning Commission.

Copies of the proposed amendments, application, and materials are available for review at the Township Hall during regular business hours.

This meeting is intended to provide an opportunity for Township residents and interested citizens to express their opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the requests. Those unable to attend the public hearing are invited to submit written comments to the attention of the Planning Commission at Wayland Township Hall, P.O. Box 1, Bradley, MI 49311. All written comments must be received by no later than 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 8, 2026.

If any resident has a physical disability which may limit his/her participation in this hearing, please notify the Township Hall at least five (5) days prior to the hearing so that reasonable accommodations may be made.

MATT MINER, SECRETARY
WAYLAND TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION
(616) 437-2639

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF CHESHIRE
Notice of Budget Public Hearing

The Cheshire Township Board will hold its Budget Public Hearing on the proposed township budget for fiscal year 2026-2027 at the Cheshire Township Hall, 471 41st Street, Allegan, Michigan at a rescheduled regular meeting (rescheduled from March 17, 2026) on Tuesday, March 26, 2026 at 6:30 P.M.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be subject of this hearing. A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection at the office of the Clerk and will be available at the hearing.

This notice is posted in Compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (open meeting act), MCLA41.72a (2)(3).

In accordance with the requirements of title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), Cheshire Township will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs, or activities.

Cheshire Township will generally, upon request, provide appropriate aids and services leading to effective communication for qualified persons with disabilities so they can participate equally in Cheshire Township programs, services, and activities.

Cheshire Township will make all reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy all of its programs, services, and activities.

Jodi Pinnell, Clerk
Cheshire Township
269-521-3440 #2

Public Notices

seconds West 145.94 feet; thence North 03 degrees 51 minutes 54 seconds East 334.78 feet; thence South 84 degrees, 25 minutes 06 seconds East 430.0 feet to the place of ending of said easement. Commonly: 3429 Arndts Dr., Hopkins, MI 49328—Tax Id #16-002-030-90 The redemption period shall be six months from the date of such sale unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, under Section 600.3278 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, the Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Dated: March 19, 2026 Ignite Credit Union, Mortgagee Holzman Law, PLLC By: Charles J. Holzman Attorney for Mortgagee 28366 Franklin Road Southfield, Michigan 48034 (248)352-4340

(03-19)(04-16)

Notice of Foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in ALLEGAN County, starting promptly at 09:00 AM on April 16, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Chad Hudson and Tara Hudson, Husband and Wife Original Mortgagee: MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, AS NOMINEE FOR VAN DYK MORTGAGE CORPORATION Date of mortgage: November 10, 2016 Recorded on November 21, 2016, Book 4089, on Page 441. Foreclosing Assignee: LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC. Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Sixty-Four Thousand Thirty-Seven and 49/100 Dollars ($164,037.49) Mortgaged premises: Located in the Township of Hopkins, ALLEGAN County and described as: UNIT 4, EAST LAKE RIDGE, ACCORDING TO THE MASTER DEED THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN LIBER 2025, PAGE 434, ALLEGAN COUNTY RECORDS, AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO AND DESIGNATED AS ALLEGAN COUNTY CONDOMINIUM SUBDIVISION PLAN NO. 142, TOGETHER WITH RIGHTS IN GENERAL COMMON ELEMENTS AND LIMITED COMMON ELEMENTS AS SET FORTH IN SAID MASTER DEED AND AS DESCRIBED IN ACT 59 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 1978, AS AMENDED. Commonly known as 2258 N EAST LAKE RD HOPKINS MI 49328 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961 pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. ALAW 5404 Cypress Center Drive, Suite 300, Tampa, FL 33609 (813) 221-4743 26-001818

(03-19)(04-09)

NOTICE TO CREDITOR'S TRUST ADMINISTRATION

TO ALL CREDITORS:

The Settlor, Stanely Fifelski Jr. DOB 2/10/1945, died 2/6/2026. There is no personal representative of the settlor's estate to whom letters of administration have been issued.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Stanley Fifelski Jr. Living Trust dated 6/22/2017, as amended, will be forever barred unless presented to Peter Fifelski, Trustee, at 1558 140th Ave., Wayland, MI 49348 within four months after the date of publication.

Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

Date: 3/5/2026
Peter Fifelski
1558 140th Ave.
Wayland, MI 49348
(269) 509-7044

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. 24-65196-DE and JUDGE

Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010

Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250

Estate of James Robert Hirt Date of Birth:*03/04/1943

TO ALL CREDITORS: **

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, James Robert Hirt, died 08-26-2024.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Brenda H. Pratt, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

3-12-2026
William C. Failey P74751
312 Fulton Street East
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
616-965-1088
Brenda H. Pratt
3039 Manhattan Lane SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506
616-340-8129

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Trust

Trust: Harold N. Johnson and Jacqueline M. Johnson Revocable Trust, u/a/d 10/30/1991

TO ALL CREDITORS: *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Harold N. Johnson , who lived at 2132 66th St., Fennville, MI 49408 Michigan died 02/08/2026

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the trust will be forever barred unless presented to the Trustee,

Joel Johnson , within 4 months from the date of publication of this notice.

03/06/2026
Blaque W. Hough P-47697
300 South State St., Ste. 11
Zeeland, MI 49464 (616) 212-9336
Joel Johnson
2250 68th St.
Fennville, MI 49408 (616) 836-3973

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. and JUDGE HON. JOLENE CLEARWATER

Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010

Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250

Estate of CARL WAYNE MCFARLAND Date of Birth:*08-25.1954

TO ALL CREDITORS: **

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, CARL WAYNE MCFARLAND, died 11-16-2025

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to MARY MCFARLAND, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

03.02.2026
Holly F. Verde P41727
281 N. 120th Avenue
Holland, MI 49424 616.399.3838
Mary McFarland
2860 62ND STREET
Fennville, MI 49408 269.455.0819

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM on MAY 7, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Gary L Burnett, Jr. and Amber Burnett, to National City Mortgage, a division of National City Bank, Mortgagee, dated October 2, 2007 and recorded October 16, 2007 in Liber 3168, Page 933 Allegan County Records, Michigan. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Sixty-Six Thousand Four Hundred Eighty-Six and 50/100 Dollars ($66,486.50).

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan at 9:00 AM on MAY 7, 2026.

Said premises are located in the City of Otsego, Allegan County Michigan, and are described as:

Lot 75 of Raven's Addition to the Village (now City) of Otsego, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof.

309 Mckinley Street, Otsego, Michigan 49078

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period. FinCEN reporting will be required of all successful purchasers, absent a lawful exemption.

Dated: March 19, 2026
File No. 26-000602
Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400
(03-19)(04-09)

Allegan County Sheriff's Office

Public Notice of Intent to Dispose of Firearms

The following is a list of firearms in evidence at the Sheriff's Office. If no valid ownership claim is received within (30) days of the date of public notice, the firearms listed will be disposed of. Please Note: These firearms are not for sale.

If you have a valid claim to any of these firearms, and are authorized to possess firearms, contact Lt. Mike Brown.

Contact Information:
Lt. Mike Brown
640 River St, Allegan, MI 49010
269-673-0500 X-4592 or mbrown@allegancounty.org.

Complaint#	Make	Model	Caliber	Serial#
22506-21	Ruger	Mod LC9s pistol	9mm	329-73680
7666-21	Beretta	Mod Nano pistol	9mm	NU028595
3210-20	Remington	Mod 870 shotgun	12ga	1172014V
19305-21	Maverick Arms	Mod 88 shotgun	12ga	MV18705B
15114-20	KSA	Mod Crickett rifle	22lr	CPR-12742
15114-20	Walther	Mod CCP pistol	9mm	WK121927
4706-20	SCCY	Mod CPX-1 pistol	9mm	708029
13663-19	S&W	Mod 64 revolver	.38	CHM5231
22506-21	Ruger	Mod LC9s pistol	9mm	329-73680
7383-19	Taurus	Mod PT111 pistol	9mm	TKS29467
5420-20	Sig-Sauer	Mod P365 pistol	9mm	66A721103
3338-21	Glock	Mod 42 pistol	.380	AAVH688
15986-18	Remington	Mod Sportsman 58 shotgun	12ga	71772V
15986-18	Winchester	Mod Ranger 120 shotgun	12ga	L1988970
15019-18	Mossberg	Mod slug barrel shotgun	12ga	R348067
12038-20	Hi-Point	Mod CF380 pistol	.380	P8068978
19121-21	S&W	Mod SD9VE pistol	9mm	FBV4718
13981-21	SCCY	Mod CPX-2 pistol	9mm	768422
5914-12	Hawes Fire Arms	Mod single action revolver	22lr	462002
2202-12	Taurus	Mod PT 1911 pistol	.45acp	NAM78120
8846-21	CZ	Mod P10 S pistol	9mm	UC02746
12996-21	Sig Sauer	Mod P320 pistol	9mm	58J041463
19305-21	Italy	Black powder revolver	.44	209290
12703-19	Kahr	Mod CM40 pistol	.40	JN0593
12703-19	Colt	Mod Automatic pistol	.25	43915
22215-21	S&W	Mod 64-8 revolver	.38spl	CXB6227
20190-21	Taurus	Mod G2c pistol	9mm	ACC725158

Complaint#	Make	Model	Caliber	Serial#
6522-20	Taurus	Mod 2" revolver	.38spl	MT87400
5663-20	Heritage	Mod Rough Rider revolver	22lr	HZ61147
3625-19	S&W	Mod Shield pistol w. laser	9mm	LFL9487
13878-20	Taurus	Mod G3 pistol	9mm	AAL070734
6765-20	Taurus	Mod G2c pistol	9mm	TMS69742
4733-21	Hi-Point	Mod C9 pistol	9mm	P1754667
18501-21	Ruger	Mod Wrangler revolver	22lr	201-62618
9574-21	Ruger	Mod P95DC pistol	9mm	314-03079
19361-20	RIA	Mod M1911A 380 pistol	.380	RIA2091730
5128-19	Hi-Point	Mod C9 pistol	9mm	P1851123
12456-19	Ruger	Mod LC9s pistol	9mm	452-75644
1978-19	S&W	M&P45 pistol	.45acp	NBA4941
15639-19	Colt	Mod 1991A1 pistol	.45acp	2704048
15839-19	S&W	Mod M&P Shield pistol	.40cal	HLL8282
2952-22	Taurus	Mod G2c pistol	9mm	TMB27988
11777-22	Beretta	Mod 21A pistol	.25	DAA222493
15193-22	Heritage Mfg	Mod Rough Rider revolver	.22lr	1BH523051
12089-22	Beretta	Mod 92FS pistol	9mm	L49359Z
7245-22	Hi-Point	Mod C9 pistol	9mm	P10018219
23740-22	S&W	Mod Bodyguard380 pistol	.380	EAT4040
6009-22	Taurus	Mod G2c pistol	9mm	ACK406995
23432-22	SCCY	Mod CPX-1 pistol	9mm	C022797
13403-22	Ruger	Mod LCP pistol	.380	373-39693
805-22	H&K	Mod USP compact pistol	9mm	27-170368
805-22	New England	Mod Pardner shotgun	20ga	NV259217
19216-22	SCYY	Mod CPX-2 pistol	9mm	C104486
14519-22	Taurus	Mod G3c pistol	9mm	ABH840831
22895-22	Taurus	Mod G2c pistol	9mm	ADD205452
12175-17	New England	Mod single shot shotgun	16ga	815234
15277-17	Remington	Mod 11-48 shotgun	12ga	5058824
14518-17	Mossberg	Mod 88 Maverick shotgun	12ga	MV0027331
8729-17	Mossberg	Mod Gamester shotgun	12ga	J384107
8729-17	Remington	Mod 870 Magnum shotgun	12ga	W631783M
1299-17	Stevens	Mod 94 shotgun	20ga	0511161
21613-17	Stevens	Mod 954 rifle	.22lr	L283213
21613-17	Winchester	Mod 1300 shotgun	12ga	L3133144
8431-17	Stevens	Mod 940E shotgun	12ga	none

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